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ART. I. *Notices of the moral and social condition of several places in the Indian Archipelago, collected in the voyage of the Himmaleh, in 1836.* By G. TRADESCANT LAY.

IN laying before the readers of the Repository a short account of the interesting matters that fell under our notice, in the voyage of the Himmaleh to the Indian Archipelago, I cannot better consult unity of narration, than by treating each subject with a distinct and separate reference, without attempting to follow the events and incidents in the order in which they occurred. I may remark, by way of prelude, that during our absence from Singapore, which occupied nearly five months, we visited Macassar, Bonthain, Ternate, Zamboanga, and Borneo Proper; and that, in my judgment, the outline of the expedition did as much honor to the understanding as to the heart of the individual by whom it was framed. The object of the voyage was to attempt something towards spreading the religion of Jesus; and if commerce and natural science were to have a share in it, it was that these, in their turn, might be made instrumental in promoting the same good cause. I take a lively interest in whatever tends to enlarge the boundaries of human knowledge, but my delight is not a little enhanced by reflecting, that, among other second causes, wisdom derived from studying the laws of nature can be made to serve as the hand-maid of the gospel. While therefore my first object is to distribute the Holy Scriptures, and to ascertain by what means they may have a wider circulation, I endeavor to note and describe what is curious in the works of nature, so far as health, leisure, and mental ease, can enable me. After I have made a few observations on the success, or rather the intimations of future success, I met with in seeking to advance the views of the British and Foreign Bible Society, I will mention a few subjects which seem to stand before others as engaging or instructive.

At Macassar our books, which we gave freely to all who would read them, were accepted with great thankfulness by the natives as well as by the Chinese. Our first distribution took place in the custom-house, in and about which place is always a great multitude of those who, having but little to do, are ready to gaze at whatever may be new or surprising. A motley packet of books, in the Chinese, Malay, and Bugis, languages, formed an exhibition of no ordinary kind, especially when the vigilance of the inspectors had spread them in great confusion upon the floor. But though a great many pressed forward to look on, when they saw that some were made happy by our liberality, they neither plied us with importunities, nor gave offense to the officers of the establishment by their misconduct. The latter found some Malay Testaments in Roman character, which, as it happened, were the very thing they had been wishing for, for they were familiar with the oral sounds of that language, but not with the Arabic letters in which it is usually written. I shall long retain a lively recollection of this scene, as our good intentions were appreciated by the people that we were seeking to benefit, and all spake in the highest terms of such unexampled liberality. We found that many could read, but often with difficulty and hesitation, for the want of those helps to improvement which we were bestowing upon them. In giving away books, you promote the education of the people (apart from all the spiritual benefit they may derive from them), by placing means in their hands which they cannot obtain from other quarters. Printed books are not to be had, and the copying of manuscripts is a rare and consequently an expensive work. Some Bugis tracts prepared at Singapore met with a reception that was truly delightful, and gave us encouragement to think, that it would not be difficult for one versed in their language to do great good among them. My inference is not drawn from what I saw in a crowd, where a general excitement may be supposed to create a great influence, but from many experiments made in small groups and neighborhoods, where everything around us was soft and tranquil, and the people had leisure to understand their own wishes. It was my practice to put a few of these little books in my pocket and walk out every evening in quest of information, for I was desirous not merely to give them away, but to learn how far they were acceptable, and what seeming likelihood there was that they would be read with attention and profit. Habit has long accustomed me to look a little below the surface of things; I am not content therefore with dispensing so many pages of printed paper, but strive to come at the mind of the natives, and learn, as far as I am able, the current and bent of their feelings.

At Macassar many little circumstances constrained me to think that success of a missionary kind would be immediate as well as permanent among the people, while a contribution to their little stock of literature, by translating the Scriptures, would give a man a real ascendancy over them, and lead all, whether believers or unbelievers, to look up to him as their friend and benefactor. The Bugis and Macassar alphabets were taken from the Sanscrit, and are identical, except that

the former has twenty-three, while the latter has only nineteen characters. It is a very neat kind of writing, and so much admired by the inhabitants of the Celebes that even those who cannot read, regarded our books as pictures, and many times offered to purchase, promised to get a teacher, and used intreaties to obtain them. Complaints were made respecting the deficiency of the alphabet, as many words, differing widely in sense and sound, were represented in writing by the same characters. This the zealous missionary would rectify, while he would furnish them with the instruments of natural logic, by a set of abstracts, borrowed from some harmonious dialect. Thus he would lay the foundation for everything that is refined in knowledge or lovely in practice, while sowing the seeds of holiness by which a soul is meetened for heaven. Our attempts to do good were approved by the resident, and most thankfully received by the natives; and could an individual obtain permission of the Dutch government to reside there, I see no reason to think that his labors would not be attended with the happiest effects.

At Ternate we did but little, as the Chinese have but an imperfect acquaintance with their own characters, the natives are so reduced that they evince no curiosity, and our stay being short and transient did not allow us to cultivate much intimacy with the people. A Dutch missionary, who had labored five years among the inhabitants of Moova with small success, performed the duties of pastor to the settlement. But it seems, that he is so limited in the nature and extent of his operations, that he cannot stir a hair's breadth to the right or to the left, without infringing upon some regulation, and thus incurring a warning from the resident, whose official duty it is to see that the good man does not do too much among the natives. The chapel on the Lord's day presents a most pleasing appearance, and is attended by a congregation that embraces several varieties of the human family, blended in many intermediate shades of feature and complexion, all alike in neatness of attire and decency of behavior. The chapel is a small well-built edifice, and has been put in repair and beautified by the resident, who has shown himself no enemy to the observance of the Sabbath, nor to the public worship of the Almighty.

At Zamboanga, in the island of Mindanao, upon the Straits of Basilan, we found about forty Chinese, very poor, and much neglected. The Catholics will not allow them to have any schools, so that their ignorance of their own literature, which is very great now, will be still greater in the next generation. Mr. Dickinson, who kindly took the trouble to look after them, promised some books if they would come on board, but so little value was set upon the offer that none made their appearance. The Spanish language is spoken by the natives in tolerable purity, and many learn to read, but among the Roman Catholics we know the Bible is a proscribed book; or at least, it cannot be studied without the license and permission of the priest; hence it could not be expected that we should succeed to a very great extent, where Romanism is in free vigor. The evil, however, was that I had no Scriptures in the Spanish language with me, which I regret

exceedingly, for several opportunities occurred when they might have been bestowed with advantage. In fact, we were exceedingly delighted with this people, as we wandered from house to house to make ourselves familiar with their habits and moral condition. The priest was a man of good family, and of a liberal way of thinking, so far as liberality can be cultivated under the dominance of a religion made up of embargos and disabilities. The books would therefore have been read in secret, without much danger from an inquisitorial search, and I think we met with some so independent in their way of thinking, that the books would have been read at any rate.

At Zamboanga, as well as at Macassar, there seemed to be no reason to infer that the people would not at once receive a missionary with kindness, and listen to his instructions with gratitude and attention. The power of the ruler has thrust itself between the appulse of the gospel and the ear of the poor heathen. As light and the sentiments of liberty spread, this obstruction will be lessened. Political philosophy leads us to such a conclusion, but we have a much higher assurance in the promise of the Almighty, that in the seed of Abraham shall all the families of the earth be blessed. At Ternate, the people must be lifted out of the dust, and receive the nature bestowed upon little children, for they are sunk so low through oppression, that though the Dutch have permitted them to cultivate the spices, they seem to be wholly unconscious of the advantages, and just till the soil enough to furnish them with the means of a poor and slender diet. If a missionary were to go and live among them, I dare say that, at first, he would have some trouble to convince them that he came on purpose to seek their welfare, but he would find them humble and respectful without the kris or Malay side-arms, and without any of that personal importance which is always associated with it.

At Borneo, for reasons which it is not necessary to state here, I did not attempt to circulate the Scriptures till I had thoroughly ascertained that the sultan, priests, and prime minister, did not consider it unlawful, that is, incompatible with their character as Mohammedans to read a book containing the religion of Jesus Christ. Copies of the sacred volume were in possession of some of the chiefs; one brought me the sleek quarto edition printed at Calcutta as a proof that he had one. When I inquired if he read it, he said, very often, and showed me that he did not tell a falsehood by reading some passages with great ease. This they cannot do without a good deal of practice, for the biblical style is different from the colloquial and epistolary, and the stiff sharp pointed character is so unlike the graceful and flowing hand of the copyist, that I have often seen a man obliged to spell the words like a child before he could make them out, though he would instantly write the same words in a smooth and easy character. Finding that he gave me so good an answer to my first question, I asked if he believed the Bible; he replied by saying, how should I not believe it? it is all very true. In one of our walks, an old counselor and favorite of the sultan showed me a part of the New Testament, as a gift from some person, whom he was proud to

call his friend. He was a zealous Mohammedan, if one may judge from the eagerness he manifested to hold an argument with me about the unity of the Godhead, but a chief interposed and would not let him repeat his challenge.

We lived in the midst of the people nearly a month, and were ever and anon reminded of our promise, that when we returned to the ship we would send them some Bibles. Among the applicants was the sultan himself, who, while the high priest and I were sitting before him, told me that I must be as good as my word. Upon this the priest, instead of cautioning the sultan against reading any book beside the Koran, evinced his anxiety to show that the Bible was no stranger to him, by telling us that the Jews divided the Old Testament into three parts, the psalms, the law, and the prophets, which, with the gospel, made the sacred volume consist of four principal divisions. This man sent his respects to Mr. Tracy, with thanks for the books that he had given to his countrymen. And, after much investigation, I am warranted in affirming, that no man there ever thought it wrong to read any book, whether he was bound to believe it or not. Most of them, and perhaps all, are abandoned lovers of pleasure, and are little disposed to exercise any part of that self-denial inculcated in the Bible; but a few relics of the moral sense are left, and these find their appropriate pleasure in the melody of righteous admonition. There is something essentially charming and delightful in the precepts of holiness, and the mind is so much led away by the sound of them, that in a sort of trance the heart forgets her own wickedness, though the will remains as corrupt as it was before, and returns again to its old purposes as a sow to her bathing in the mire. Reading is confined to persons of quality, so that until the missionary begins his labors among them, they only can receive immediate benefit by the distribution of books. All merit is limited to them, and none who are not pangerans, or the descendants of feudal lords, practice any arts of skill, or attempt to lay up any knowledge among them. A chief is the head, and his train of dependants the hands; he thinks and they not; he lays the plan, his brothers and near relatives execute the finer parts, while the retainers and vassals perform the drudgery. If you put the head in motion, the whole body will move with it; if, therefore, the chief should think it right to read the Bible, all his followers would be devoutly of the same opinion; and, should he make up his mind to forget the religion of the prophet and adopt that of Jesus, those who had looked up to him as the exemplar of action and virtue, would follow without a murmur, and perhaps without a single impression of surprise. A foreigner, with a little insight into medicine and sincere love for the Bible, may dispense relief for disease and scatter the word of God, as we were invited to; if he did not carry any insidious enemies with him, his person would be safe, though his patience at first might be severely tried, as the people are wholly given up to vice, very conceited, great cowards, and immeasurably selfish.

If a man were to tell them that he came to Borneo with the express design of overthrowing Mohammedanism and planting the religion of

Jesus Christ in its place, he would not perhaps obtain leave to reside there on such terms; but if he stated that he would practice physic and do them all the good in his power, the sultan would give him a house and food to eat. Several times the sultan repeated his invitation; 'stop here,' said he, addressing the writer, 'and I will give you a house, and send to Europe for your wife.' His succor would be sought with the most implicit reliance, his reproofs would be borne, and his instructions listened to with the deepest interest, by many. When the chiefs used to come to me and complain of their pains and aches, I pointed out their vices as the cause of their sufferings, but they never took the reproof amiss, or made any other defense, save this, that they could not help it. Some were very eager to know the rules of government in other countries, inquiring what were considered offenses, and what punishments were awarded to them; and on one occasion, after I had been answering many such questions, a chief said, if you did but know more of our language, how many curious and instructive things could you tell us. I said, I have spoken Malay but a short time, and the language itself is deficient, so that there is a twofold hindrance in the way of free and pleasant communication. I recited some sentences out of a Malay book one evening, to their very great delight, as it was thought a rare and extraordinary thing to hear a white man read. One of the minister's brothers often solicited poison, that he might carry it about him as an asylum in the day of battle. When I said, a brave man would fight while he was able, and when he could no longer wield his weapon he would submit to his fate with resignation,—he still clung to his favorite resource, and many times renewed his request, till wearied with his importunities, I told him, God had forbidden self-murder. These words he repeated in a tone of perfect acquiescence, without asking whether the precept came from the Bible or the Koran.

These things are of very little importance when taken by themselves, but I mention them as intimations that the labors of a medical missionary would not be lost upon them, even at the very outset of his career. In my view of them, their character is compounded of those vices which mankind have always deemed most hateful and most unworthy of rational beings, and therefore I am not disposed to dazzle his eyes with the golden hopes of magnificent success. I and my fellow-laborer learnt to judge of the Borneo people, not by hearing, nor by seeing, but by feeling, and little was wanted to complete our opinion. All I assert is, that a man might use the means, and if he did it with faith and patience, the blessing of God would be sure to follow, an inference which we draw from the consummate veracity of God. When we cannot use the means, then we cannot look for the blessing. There is one circumstance which would have a growing operation in his favor, which is, that the character of missionaries is better understood by the natives of this part of the world—they begin to find out, that they were mistaken, when they confounded with them the tyrants and money hunters that have for centuries oppressed, cheated, and impoverished, them. They are fast hastening to the conclusion, that

they belong to a distinct order of men, whose sole business and aim are to promote works of benevolence. We met with an instance of this kind at Borneo, at a time when we were in great want of pleasing considerations. A Chinaman had come as interpreter and mercantile agent in a trading vessel, during our stay, and was in all points a Chinaman, that is, a man of trade. One evening as he was sitting in a large circle, and answering a variety of questions respecting Singapore, we went and sat down a short distance from them. Among other questions he was asked, what kind of persons the missionaries were, when he gave them such a neat and faithful account of their conduct and character, that we could not have desired, that a single addition should have been made to it. There was no religion about this man, he understood business and spoke the Malay language exceedingly well, and being a man who understood the world, he gave to his hearers an accurate account of the missionaries just as he would of the governor or any other person there.

At Macassar every thing is flat and dull, there is no motive for industry, no stimulus to enterprize. The spirit of monopoly on the part of the Dutch, and the insecurity of property, from the grasping and unchecked avarice of the native *rájis*, take from the subject every inducement he might feel to be useful either to himself or to others. The idleness and nonchalance that we see under every aspect and modification, should excite our compassion, but never provoke our resentment, for it would be marvellous indeed if we discovered anything beyond a regard for present ease and present gratification. Nor are there any extraneous circumstances that can awaken curiosity in a native, or stir up his energies: no well furnished stores to win his attention and make him desire better clothing, or any of the more showy implements of luxury. There is a long street within the walls of Macassar that runs parallel to the beach, and is called the bazar, and I many times walked from one end to the other with a determination to buy something as a memorial of Macassar, but not a single article that was either pretty or ingenious could be found. A few common edibles, a small assortment of dying stuffs, a remnant or two of Chinese crockery, with a looking-glass and an ugly comb, made up the average inventory of all their merchandise.

The Macassar differs from the Bugis in having larger and more open features, as well as in the peculiar ruddiness that is mixed with the brown tincture of his skin. The hair is suffered to fall down and float loosely upon the shoulders, and has a red tinge oftentimes, by way of correspondence with the rest of the person. I have seen the truth of this circumstance questioned, because red hair and a dark complexion were thought incompatible with each other, an opinion that is not affected by this instance, for here the hair is not yellow nor orange, but its ends have a deep red hue, while the rest is black. The little boys and girls that you see running about in troops are often very handsome, while the lineaments of the latter are sometimes not only faultless in design, but they have withal a shade of thoughtfulness and melancholy, which is rightly esteemed to be the last touch

and finishing stroke of personal beauty. These promises of future loveliness vanish before maturity, for the want, I suppose, of education, which, while it bestows unfading charms upon the mind, tends to model and perpetuate all the perfections of the body. I do not pretend to have a profound acquaintance with those branches of knowledge that teach us to judge of the jewel by the shape of the casket; yet I cannot help thinking that the indications which I read upon the head and countenance of a Macassar, so often at variance with his present condition in the scale of morals and intellect, will hereafter unfold and explain themselves in a very delightful manner, when liberty and religion shall have cast their smiles upon him. That he is not deficient in head-piece, is evinced by some productions of skill in the manufacture of gloves and baskets, where the workmanship for delicacy and fineness cannot be surpassed. We found them much in love with their own written character, which is the same as the Bugis, if we except the small deficiency of three or four letters. Many can read, and all would learn, if they had books to afford them the means of doing it. We observed, though many seemed to value themselves as being of a more ancient and noble stock than the Bugis, they esteem it creditable to understand that language, so that a translation of the Scriptures in this admired and far-famed dialect would serve for almost the whole of the humanised portion of Celebes. It is said that Dr. Leyden translated a gospel into the Bugis; if the manuscript could be obtained, an edition would be acceptable to many in that beautiful but neglected island. Their persons are exempt from those unsightly scabs and blemishes that we see in many other places, and this I impute to their cleanly habits. Wells are plentiful, scarcely a yard without one: hither, males and females come to wash their clothes and bathe their skin, pouring many a bucket full upon their heads. It forms a part of the daily duty and amusement of old and young, and seems to be one of the principal cares of a mother. The person of a Chinaman at Macassar is exactly the reverse; it is every way unwholesome, for, instead of an anxious rubbing and a copious affusion, the application of a filthy dishcloth drawn over the neck and face once or twice completes the whole business of washing. The Chinese at the places visited by us were generally poor and often despised, since a native junk seldom or never comes to replenish their stores, to render them respectable, or to find them employment.

At Bonthain we stayed only two days, and, as it rained during one of them, we had but little time for research. The town is seated near the nook of a far-withdrawn indentation in the coast, where the land from each point climbs by an easy but varied ascent into a magnificent amphitheatre of mountains. The cascade a few miles from the residency is an object of much curiosity; a stream of water about three fathoms in breadth falls over an escarpment, which we guessed to be about 150 feet in height. To the eye it seems perpendicular, and the vertical plane is only interrupted here and there by a ledge that makes only a small divergence in certain parts of the stream. The cold within reach of the spray was very great, but what the real depression

of temperature was I cannot tell, as I was so unfortunate as to forget my thermometer. Water when in the state of mist or steam seems to have a great affinity for caloric; hence the reason why we feel a strong sensation of cold when a mass of cloudy vapor is moving towards us in the atmosphere.

The natives here are said to speak a language different from the Macassar, but I apprehend the dissimilarity is neither great nor radical. The only matter of interest among the natives is a market, held at the head of the bay, every fifth day. Towards this point all are seen hastening, soon after daybreak, with their various items of merchandise. Rice, and the sirih, with accompaniments, a few sorts of bark for dyeing, some India goods, and Javanese copper-wares, are brought for sale. I supposed, at first, that the productions on one side of the harbor were different from those on the other, but I was mistaken, for I saw large pink-colored bamboo shoots, and other vegetables, returning by the same way they had come. So, for any thing I know to the contrary, a man might carry a bundle of such things three or four miles merely to sell them to his next neighbor. But there is nothing laughable in this, for nature has implanted in us a fondness of *catus et celebrationes*, as Tully remarks in his Offices; so that a man does not scruple to trudge a few weary miles, that he may behold and converse with a company of his fellow-creatures; and in such a celebration or assembly sell his goods to the highest bidder, though he might have disposed of them at as high a price by walking only a few yards from his own door. In speaking of vegetables, I might just mention, that the potatoes, *Solanum tuberosum*, not the *Convolvulus batatas*, or sweet potatoes, cultivated at Bonthain, may be compared to any in the world for their excellence. A loose pulverulent soil, such as Trappean rocks generally afford, and a sunny exposure on the side of a mountain, are circumstances highly favorable to the growth of this useful article of diet.

The soil of Ternate is perhaps, in all respects, the best that can be found in any part of the world, and there is something in its dark crumbling texture that impresses the mind with the highest ideas of its fertility, while the vegetable creation around you bespeaks, in the strongest and most lively terms, the extreme happiness of all its members. The sultry parts of the day are often fanned by a breeze, and the nights are very cool, the thermometer having been known to descend as low as 56°. Though this may be rare, yet the sheet or coverlet is seldom unwelcome. All stress is therefore taken off the system during the night, and nature so far recruits her powers and repairs the wastes of the day, that in point of salubrity there seems to be no place like Ternate within the tropics. The assertion is not intended to be made absolutely, or as if there is no exception in favor of any other region; for, though I have traveled much, I have not examined the meteoric phenomena of every quarter within the tropics. But still the hand of God seems to have poured out blessings upon the Moluccas in a stream of overflowing plenteousness; from 'the beginning to the end of the year,' health, beauty, and softness, move

in one unbroken circle. If the beneficence of the Deity puts on an air of peculiar loveliness in these places, the malice of man has been no less conspicuous in thrusting forth itself in all its hateful deformity, as if it had been the proper business and function of a human creature to be the very inverse of his Maker, and to resemble as much as possible the evil one, who is emphatically styled in Scripture, both in Greek and Hebrew, the destroyer. The Dutch, not content with the devastation they could make by themselves among the spice trees, at last, resolved to hire the native rājás to assist them in the execution of their diabolical purposes. The trees have in consequence of this proceeding been nearly extirpated; the few that remain probably escaped the notice of the destroyers, while the natives, robbed of what was their glory, have lost all feelings of independence and personal right, and live and look like the sons and daughters of oppression. Their subsistence is derived from the tillage of the soil, or the tendance of the durian, mangosteen, and other fruit trees. And I dare say that those philanthropists who think it is enough for a poor man, that he feeds and sleeps with as little intellectual disturbance as possible would find much to admire in the condition of these people. The gentleman mentioned above and myself took our seat in the carriage of the resident, and were received by the sultan with much ceremony and military display; Malay forms of etiquette and a field officer's uniform are not altogether at variance with each other, while the address and venerable appearance of the individual must have inspired sentiments of respect, could one forget that he received a pension to act the foe instead of being the friend and patron of his subjects. When I speak of the Dutch, I mean the Dutch government, without reference to individuals, for it is only the part of common courtesy to acknowledge, that the governor of Macassar showed me every mark of respect and attention, and the farewell of the resident of Ternate was accompanied by a charge to return as soon as possible, and with him explore all the beauties of the Moluccas.

Zamboanga has a neat appearance when viewed from the Straits of Basilan, but possesses no buildings of any beauty or magnificence. A church is in process of being erected, which will have a very good effect from the sea. The inhabitants wear a very pleasing aspect, the intermixture of Spanish blood having contributed to beautify and polish their features. The Spanish language is uniformly spoken, and very few know much about the mother-tongue of their forefathers. Many are taught to read and write, with some of the more familiar rudiments of the Catholic religion; but the characteristic of this people is a happy exemption from care, disease, and labor, since all the necessities of life may be obtained by the smallest exertions of industry. When we entered their dwellings they talked to us with the most perfect good nature, and seemed in no way restrained by our presence. When wet, hungry, and tired in travel, they gave us a share of the best hospitality their houses could afford; and, out of compliment to their guest, descanted upon the happiness and prosperity that would arise to the settlement, had they but English instead of

Spanish masters. A few miles' walk from the town brings you to a country delightfully varied with the interchange of mountain and plain. These plains are smooth, with only here and there a shrub or perhaps a little copse. I confess there is something in a wide campaign that is inexpressibly engaging, especially when we meet with it amidst a range of hills, where the eye, after expatiating a while in the liberty of the expanse before it, can rest by turns upon the green pinnacles, which, shifting behind each other in perpetual succession, sweep around the spectator, and form an amphitheatre of elevation.

The exercise of authority at Zamboanga is not severe, and if the Spaniards do not take a lively and efficient interest in promoting the welfare of the people, they certainly do not grudge their happiness. The officers of the military establishment who treated us with kindness and consideration, not uncommon among the better sort of their nation, often spoke in praise of their inoffensiveness, and the comparative purity with which they spoke the Spanish language. The governor remarked, on one occasion, that a man could by working two hours in the day earn a real, one eighth of a Spanish dollar, which was sufficient to maintain himself and family, and that in consequence of this, they were not disposed to labor. This is the amount of censure cast upon them by their rulers, which, under existing circumstances is no censure at all, for why should a man toil when there is no object set before him to stimulate his exertions?

Sunday morning presented a gay spectacle at Zamboanga, as many repair betimes to the public service, the officers of the naval and military departments in uniform, the soldiers in a neat and easy costume, and many of the inhabitants in their best attire. After the service, the governor and all official persons wait upon the padre as a matter of compliment, and those who dare not presume to mix themselves with such folks, find another opportunity of paying their respects, for his 'reverence' walks out, when many are seen advancing to make an act of obeisance, while some still more devout run up to him and kiss his hand. There was something above the ordinary standard in the character and bearing of this man, and his look was full of benevolence, so that such ceremonies of respect did not seem altogether out of place. But such is the nature of the Catholic religion, that though regard to one professedly a minister of Jesus Christ may appear becoming, yet if these people knew their own situation, they would deem him one of their greatest enemies, inasmuch as a fundamental article in his creed is the duty of keeping them far from the noble privilege of thinking and choosing for themselves. Hence, though things appear easy and tranquil, there are no symptoms of improvement, no aspirations of thought or enterprise, no efforts after anything better. There is contentment, if one may judge from externals, but contentment of a very questionable sort, for it leaves a man stranger to every acquirement that can fit him for acting a worthy part here, and in utter indifference about his final destinies.

At Zamboanga, we buried the missionary Samuel Wolfe, who had been gradually approaching the borders of the grave for many months

prior to his death. The officers of the settlement put on their black coats and attended the funeral. He was buried by the permission of the padre in an old *Campo Santo*, on the west side of the town. An imaginary line, drawn from the sun, as it rises on the 28th of April, and passing through the mango trees, and produced 12 feet from their foot, will point out the place of his interment, should any of his friends ever visit that region. Wolfe, in memory and discrimination, seemed to have been fitted in a peculiar manner for the acquisition of eastern languages.

I see by referring to a memorandum of a statement made to me by the commandant, a very well informed man, that the whole commerce of Mindanao does not amount to more than 2000 dollars, while that of the Sooloo islands is not less than 150,000. In connection with this, we see all the viendas or shops at Zamboanga meanly furnished; a pitiful assortment of plantains, and a few pines are generally all the seller has to dispose of, if we except the palm-wine, which is kept in a wooden vessel that occupies the centre and most conspicuous part of his stall. I have entered shops where all the fruit had been sold, the wine cask emptied, and nothing remained but the keeper, who sat in the middle of the room as if waiting for customers. There is therefore nothing to be had for money, consequently few think it worth their while to earn it. A life of ease and tranquility is the supreme good at Zamboanga; and, if we reckon by the ordinary standard of the world, a life of comparative innocence. It is a slender happiness, however, and a morality that is poor indeed, being devoid of all those principles that give a right character to one, or form the basis of the other. But they are to be pitied, for their spiritual guides will not allow a stranger to go and give them an opportunity of choosing better things. It is a matter of daily supplication with me, that places decked in such a beauteous dress by the hand of Providence, and a people so easily wrought into a better form, may not always remain in their present situation, but that the dayspring may take hold on these ends of the earth, that the wicked may be shaken out of it. Job. 38, 13.

The city of Bruni consists of two ranges of houses, standing upon the water at the bend of the river, and contains about twenty thousand inhabitants. The straight stems of the Nibong serve for piers, the walls are formed of bamboo, and the roof is covered with the Nipa, the most elegant of the palmy group. The feudal system prevails here in all its integrity; the whole population is divided into the *kawan* or vassals of each respective *pangiran* or chieftain. Their duty is to attend upon their lord when called for, and to provide all the substantial things of life for his enjoyment. 'All work and no pay' is the character of their servitude; but acts of cruelty are not common; indeed, a man cannot be punished for any capital offense, without a trial and a hearing before the principal chieftains: the sultan is elective, though the limit of choice does not extend beyond the royal family. All the affairs of state are administered by the *pamangku* or *mangku-bumi*, or prime minister. The respective share that each

one of these personages takes in the affairs of government, was briefly summed up in four words by a brother of the sultan : *Sultan bilang, Hassim kirja*; 'the Sultan speaks, Hassim acts.' Hassim is a man of great endowments, and therefore not only manages the executive department with talent and resolution, but exerts such a check upon the sultan, that his antics and baby pranks are mostly confined within the limits of the Astana. Selfishness, pride, and cowardice, which are apt to mix themselves with everything that is human, stand forth in the highest relief in the whole composition of the character of the inhabitants of this country. In all the details of daily intercourse these qualities meet you at every turn, and seem to pervade every action and every thought.

At Bruni every chieftain exhibits at his house, especially if he be a man of enterprise, the miniature of a general manufactory. Canoes, prahus, with their armaments, implements of husbandry, and household utensils, are constructed upon the premises, under his own superintendence. For the mechanical and industrial resources of a man bear some constant ratio to his work, as do also the skill of the workmen that he employs. Near the residence of the prime minister is a dock, where a fine little vessel was in process of building, while the different parts of the platform, whereon the edifice is reared, are filled with artisans and laborers of various kinds. The hall, or long room in which he receives his guests, comes in for a full share of the bustle; and in a sort of portico in front, if one may designate any parts of architecture so humble with such a high sounding name, the unfortunate culprits were busily employed in meshing jars with rattan to answer the purpose of water casks at sea. In the large apartment, just referred to, was a strewnment of carved works which a chief was preparing for the vessel. Thus every thing has an air of business and activity, and if you go into a dwelling where no such stir meets you at the entrance, it is because the owner is not a man of high rank, or is very deficient in talent. The carver I mentioned had a gift for delineation, and must have studied the works of nature, so that there was neither a straight line nor a hard edge, nor any attempt at unnatural uniformity. There was a freedom and a taste in whatever he set his hand to. I have some hasty sketches which he made with black chalk upon rough Chinese paper, that indicate the man of thought and fancy. In all Malay countries, nay in all the islands and many of the shores of eastern Asia, the prince and the great men have the sole monopoly of trade, but even in this sphere a commercial spirit makes no small difference. The sultan adjusts the price to be given for the goods, but in the quantity of business transacted he came far behind many of the chiefs. He is not without natural endowments, and he has withal a remarkable memory, for whenever the rest were in doubt about the name of a plant, the sultan's answer settled the matter; but self-conceit and the love of flattery led him to choose a dream instead of reality, so that he would be listening to the adulation of his courtiers, when it was his interest to be looking after his agents, and to be laying plans for commercial advantage. The welfare

of the subjects, of course, can never expect to find a place in a heart so much in love with itself.

The chief is not only superintendent of all the works, but he is head-store-keeper also, and the keys are carried by some faithful attendant or steward, who does not open without a specific order from his master. The females that throng the harems are all fed in this way; not one aspires to the duty of house-keeper, not even the favorite queen, however great her ascendancy may be. An old woman of the sultan's palace, who, I suppose, acted the part of caterer or proveditor for the rest, came one day, as I was sitting by his highness, and after falling at his feet told him that the provisions of a certain kind were exhausted; upon this, the sultan, with a great deal of histrionic effect, recited the solicitations that were made every day to him from the same quarter. This occurrence, trifling in itself, impressed upon my mind the degraded condition of women where polygamy is fashionable. It was melancholy to reflect upon the situation of a female, who, though her father might be a prince of the highest rank, was obliged to submit to the humiliation of sending an old woman to dun her lord for the necessaries of life. The effects of such a system upon the mind of the softer sex can easily be guessed, but the pernicious tendency which it exerts upon the sons of such mothers cannot be estimated. If therefore we weigh the matter impartially, we cease to wonder at the vices of men; initiated in the first principles of living under such inauspicious circumstances, and are ready to conclude, when we discover talent or any symptoms of moral virtue, that it must be in a particular manner by the gift of heaven.

Brunei is advantageously situated for holding intercourse with the interior, by means of a noble and beautiful river, running, we know not how far, into the country, and thus affording an easy route for the different tribes that people the neighborhood. Of these tribes, some are savage and are very much dreaded by the Brunese, as the *Muruts* for example; others are reputed very harmless, as the *Kadaian*. They all appear to use distinct languages, but many must have learnt Malay, as they are often seen in canoes in the floating market, buying or selling as the case may be. The sultan is known to a great distance, and has a nominal sway over very distant tribes, who make a tacit acknowledgement of his authority, sometimes by submitting questions of territorial right to his decision. A Malay prahu of ambassadors came with a case of this sort, while we were staying at the palace, which speaks well for them, since they prefer reputed wisdom and justice to the uncertain and bloody issue of arms. If the market were supplied with a well chosen assortment of goods, and commercial dealings conducted upon rules of fairness and equality, many from the higher part of the country would resort thither, and be stirred up to investigate the resources of their native cantonments. This would promote the study of the Malay language, and, of course, bestow a mighty facility upon mutual intercourse. This acquaintance with that smooth and mellifluous medium of speech would be greatly accelerated, by opening schools for the instruction of youth at Brunei, which will be practica-

ble as soon as the minister shall discover that it would ensure his authority and tend to fill his coffers. In this way it might become the centre and focus of religious light and civilization, which would be gradually diffused from hand to hand among the people of remote districts, till a stranger might travel among them without the fear of a poisoned arrow sent by some hunting foe, whose courage lies only in the hope of concealment. It would not be easy to wander over the country in quest of objects to do good upon, but they would easily find out Bruni, and would come when they understood there was any thing to be had there worth going for. And, depend upon it, they will cast off their wild and savage habits whenever they find that the exchange would be for their good; and when they have learnt by experience that the strangers seek their welfare, they will respect their character and account their persons secure. The inhabitants of Bruni are fond of novelty; they find out the superiority of Europeans, and are determined to imitate them; they would not like to part with Moham-medanism at once, because it humors their favorite sins; but they would be willing to graft any thing upon it, that seemed to render them more like the models they pattern after. They are fond of annexing some parts of our costume as a supplement to their own, because they discern their superiority in the adaptation to the human form, and though they are obliged to appear in ritual habiliments before the sultan, they take care to wear something European at other times whenever they can obtain it. They would do the same by our religion and our sentiments of liberality, till by a close encounter old things should pass away, and all things should become new.

ART. II. *Christianity in Burmah: brief notices of the mission; its extent, divisions, laborers, converts, books, schools, &c.* By the Rev. H. MALCOM.

[To those who desire to extend Christianity, notices of its progress are always interesting. In the present age, when Christians, looking over the whole wide world, begin to see how much there is for them to do, careful surveys are, we think, in the highest degree desirable. As Christians, our duty is to teach all nations and to preach the gospel to every creature, without delay. In a work so vast—and yet scarcely begun—union of purpose and division of labor are essential. The enterprise calls for wisdom, prudence, and economy, of the highest kind: and every part of it should be often and carefully inspected. In this view of the case, missions like those of Mr. Lay, and Mr. Malcom, become of great importance; and every step they take, every measure they recommend, every report they give, requires no ordinary attention. From the former gentleman, who intends, we believe, to continue his stay in the east a year or two longer, we expect frequent communications. The Rev. Mr. Malcom's researches will be published in America, on his return there, from which place he has been absent 26 months. While on his tour,

he has visited Calcutta, Madras, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Chittagong, Arracan, Rangoon, Ava, Maulmein, Tavoy, Mergui, Malacca, Singapore, Bankok, and many other places in their vicinity; and, having spent a month in China, embarked for the United States on the 21st instant. His object has been, not merely to visit these places, and gain information, but to transact business, in behalf of the Board by which he was commissioned, which could not well be done by correspondence. Respecting Burmah, he has kindly furnished us with the following notices. Our request not having been made till the eve of his departure, when his papers were already shipped, the statements are made from memory; and are, therefore, in some cases, only given in round numbers. The same Board has missions among twelve of the tribes of the north American Indians, in Hayti, West Africa, France, Germany, Greece, A'sam, the Laos (Shans), Siam, and Talingana (Madras presidency), and has also several missionaries studying the Chinese language.]

THE Burman mission may be regarded as consisting of three departments: Burmah Proper; the Tenasserim provinces; and the Karens. The whole population of these three divisions, including Shans, and many other tribes, subject to Burmah, is perhaps not far from seven millions.

The proper Burmese are those under the emperor. Among them are two stations, Rangoon and Ava; and at each two missionaries, and some native assistants. At Ava are about thirty native converts; at Rangoon there were formerly sixty, but nearly all these are now scattered by persecution. From the commencement of the mission to this country, persecution has not ceased, though sometimes intermitted for a season. Every species of annoyance has been inflicted on the missionaries, and some of the converts have been made literally to 'suffer the loss of all things.' Natives who remained unshaken in the belief and practice of idolatry have been whipped, and heavily fined for so much as giving suck a few days to a missionary's child, or attending to render other services. Still the missionaries 'count not their lives dear unto them,' and are purposed to remain till force shall take place of threats, and their removal be constrained. The missionaries at Ava, are Messrs. Kincaid and Simons; and at Rangoon, Messrs. Webb and Howard.

The Tenasserim provinces are Arracan, Martaban, Tavoy, Yea, and Mergui; portions of country which were added to Burmah by the great Alompra, founder of the present dynasty, and which were wrested from the monarch lately deceased, by the English East India Company.

Arracan contains about 200,000 inhabitants and has three missionaries. Mr. Fink at Akyab, and Messrs. Comstock and Ingles, at Kyouk Phyoo, and several native preachers. Mr. Fink has been engaged in the mission many years, supported from Serampore, and has a considerable church of natives.

Martaban has two stations, Maulmein and Amherst. At Maulmein are Messrs. Judson, Bennett, Hancock, and Osgood, a church of one hundred and twenty natives, and a church of converted soldiers. Here is the head quarters of translation, printing, casting type, binding, &c. The printing office is very large, having five or six presses, with

every facility, and employing daily about twenty-five natives. The consumption of paper is about three thousand reams per annum. In 1835, more than eight millions of octavo pages were printed. The whole Bible is translated and printed, making four octavo volumes, and is given liberally both in whole and in parts. There are twenty-two tracts printed, of which thirteen consist wholly of Scripture extracts. Several of them are large, such as the Life of Christ, Digest of Doctrines, &c., and form in the whole 659 octavo pages of reading matter. The remaining nine tracts contain about 200 pages of reading matter. There is also a spelling book of 32 pages. All these have been many times revised, and are found to be as intelligible to the natives as their own books, saving the difficulty of the subjects, and the newness of many words. The distribution of tracts and Scriptures has been immense, as may be inferred from the amount of paper annually consumed. At Amherst, is Mr. Haswell, who labors among the Peguans. Yea has only had native ministers, and has few inhabitants.

At Tavoy, Messrs. Wade and Mason have completely acquired the Karen language, and are devoted to that people, residing in the city of Tavoy only during the rainy season, when the jungle is uninhabitable to foreigners. Mergui has no missionary at present.

The mission to the Karens has perhaps been more blessed than any other of modern times. The missionaries are Messrs. Wade, Mason, Vinton, and Abbott, with their wives, and Miss Macomber. These Karens are scattered through the whole of Burmah, on all the hilly country, and amount, perhaps, to 40 or 50 thousand souls, or perhaps more. There are churches founded at Meta, Tonng, Byouk, Pyee-kya, Kapa, Tsarawa, Tamla, Newville, Bootah, and Chetthing. The number of Karens who have been converted to God, and baptized, amounts to about 800. Not an individual has been baptized but on satisfactory evidence of conversion to God.

There are in the mission about thirty valuable native preachers, for whom, and others apparently called to this work, a seminary has lately been instituted, where they may acquire Biblical knowledge, and, if young enough, the English language.

ART. III. *Siamese History; notices continued from the Siamese era, 927 to 944 (or from A. D. 1566* to 1583).* By a Correspondent.

SIAMESE ERA 927, A. D. 1566. While Nāret, the governor of Pit-sanulók, was absent on his expedition to Pegu, directions were given to Nantasu and rájá Sougkhram to remove the Thaiyai from Kam-

* In the last number, by some inadvertence, there was an error in the dates, which stand here correct.

péngpet to Pitsanulók. Their refusal involved them in a quarrel with Náret, in consequence of which they attempted to flee and deliver themselves up to the Peguans. Náret, aware of their intentions, dispatched a military force in pursuit of them. They encountered at a place called Méráká. Nantasu and Songkhrám escaped, but the Thaiyai were taken, to the number of more than 20,000, with horses and elephants in abundance, and conducted to Pitsanulók. While this expedition was carrying forward, news reached Náret that the governor of Phichai and of Sawankhalók were leagued in rebellion against him at Sawankhalók. He immediately collected his forces and marched against them. On his approach, he sent them a message, that, if they would come forth and pay their respects, he would pass by their offense. Instead of this, they fortified themselves to their utmost; but Náret assailed them with so much vigor, that they were forced to flight, but soon overtaken, bound, carried round the victor's camp as a spectacle, and then executed. The inhabitants of Sawankhalók were then swept up, and conveyed to Pitsanulók. At this period it would appear that Náret was in a great measure independent in the government of all the northern parts of the kingdom, for a deputation arrived at Ayuthiyá from Kamboja, bearing a communication from the sovereign of that country, addressed to Náret and his father as joint kings, and this deputation was sent forward to Pitsanulók to obtain an expression of the pleasure of Náret. The purport of this letter was, that, though the Kambojan prince had formerly been alienated, he now begged forgiveness, and promised to be on the most friendly terms in future. Náret on his part, returned a friendly and complimentary answer, wishing perpetual prosperity to Kamboja.

928. Náret sent all the Thaiyai who had sought refuge with him, down to Ayuthiyá, where his father, after showing them much kindness, had them located in a neighboring settlement. In the 8th month, Náret dispatched an army to Chiangmai, to ascertain the state of affairs in Pegu. In the 9th month, orders from his father reached Náret to gather all the inhabitants of the northern provinces and conduct them to the capital. Hence the people of Phichai, Sawankhalók, Sukhótai, Kampéngpet, and Phichit, were embarked in boats and rafts, with a body of soldiers on each bank of the river, to protect them, and prevent them from running away. In the 11th month, Náret reached Ayuthiyá, and the king ordered every effort to be made to put the country in a state of defense, the city walls, forts, and fortresses to be repaired, and the trench about the city widened and deepened, so that the city became an island, having water of equal depth on all sides. The king of Pegu, from the time that he heard of Náret's escape from his country, and especially when he heard the fate of Nantasu and rájá Songkhrám, was very wrathful, and determined he would conquer Siam at all hazards.

The king of Pegu gave orders to the governor of Chiangmai to levy troops, horses, and elephants, to the amount of 100,000, and proceed to Kampéngpet. He also directed his uncle the governor of Bassein

to proceed with 30,000 men to Kanchantaburi. When intelligence of these matters reached the king of Siam, Náret and his brother were dispatched to meet the enemy. On their march, a wonder happened; a mare had a foal with one head, two bodies, and eight feet! Náret and his brother proceeded, attacked and routed the governor of Bassein, and took many of the Burmese and Peguans prisoners, with many horses and elephants. The governor of Chiangmai, ignorant of the discomfiture of his ally, the governor of Bassein, proceeded into the Siamese territories, and advanced as far as Chainát. Part of his forces was dispersed in foraging parties. A body of Siamese was disposed in the surrounding jungles, and whenever the foraging parties proceeded on their expeditions, the Siamese rushed forth from their coverts, assailed them with vigor, and pursued them even to their camp. In this way, many horses and elephants were taken, and many lives lost on the part of the enemy, and a considerable number were taken prisoners. At length, the governor of Chiangmai, having learned the fate of the governor of Bassein, and perceiving that the Siamese had entered the contest with vigor, concluded it was best to withdraw, and wait further orders from the monarch of Pegu. This year another embassy was received from Kamboja, the only object of which was, by some superstitious ceremonies, to establish more firmly the existing alliance between the two countries. When the Peguan king heard the fate of his expedition, he was greatly displeased, and cast all the blame of his failure on the governor of Chiangmai.

930. This year he sent three of his own officers to direct the forces of Chiangmai. In this campaign, the governor of Chiangsén furnished 15,000 men, 150 elephants, and 1000 horses; the governor of Chiangmai furnished 100,000 men, 300 harnessed elephants, 3000 horses, and a thousand boats. When news of the approach of this army reached Siam, the king made every arrangement for meeting it that was practicable. He gave directions to certain officers to go and join the various clans of banditti that infested the fastnesses of the country, and to secure their assistance, to cut off the enemy in all their foraging expeditions, and by no means let them advance to the capital. The Kambojans also came to their assistance with 10,000 men, 100 elephants, and 300 horses. Nothing of consequence, however, was effected that year.

931. The next year, just before the commencement of the rains, the king of Pegu gave orders to his son, the premier, to march with 50,000 men to Kampéngpet, and cultivate rice, as provisions for his army, sending word at the same time to the governor of Chiangmai to defend them in their cultivation, and not to allow the Siamese to cultivate anything, and that, at the close of the rains, he would join them in person with the royal army, to proceed and make sure work in reducing Siam. The Siamese, however, made occasional sallies upon them, killed some, and took a number of prisoners, from whom they learned the plans of the enemy. Náret and his brother fearlessly promised to defend the country, and march to the attack of the 100,000 men from Chiangmai, before they should be joined by the army from

Pegu. After one or two severe engagements with advance parties, they met the main army, and with some artifice and much fierceness assailed them so vigorously, that the governor of Chiangmai was forced to flee, and the Siamese secured several nobles as prisoners, with Laos, Burman, Peguan, and Thaiya, to the amount of 10,000 men, 20 elephants, and more than 500 horses, of war-boats and provision boats more than 400, with warlike implements in abundance. The governor of Chiangmai fled to Kampéngpet, and told the premier of all that had happened. The premier dispatched intelligence of the state of affairs to Pegu; but used his efforts to collect the fragments of the Laos army from various places whither they had fled to Kampéngpet. His labors of cultivation were also continued, and the Laos were employed in constructing boats. To assist the Siamese in this contest, the king of Kamboja had sent his brother, with an army, which was proceeding up the country, when Nâret returned flushed with his success. Instead of showing the Kambojan prince the respect due to a friendly ally, Nâret grossly insulted him by cutting off the head of some Laos captives, and ordering them to be set up on poles before his ally's quarters. This was a provocation which could not be forgiven. The prince returned to Kamboja, and related the indignities which had been shown him, and the two countries became alienated. When the king of Pegu received the intelligence of the repeated defeat of the governor of Chiangmai, he was very angry, and called him a jungle-calf, &c., but sent word to Kampéngpet to have him return to his own country, and provide stores for 300,000 men, on penalty of his severe displeasure. The governor of Chiangmai, in awe of such a requirement, exerted his best efforts to meet it. At the close of the rainy season, he met the Peguan king at Kampéngpet, with 200,000 men, 1000 harnessed elephants, 7000 horses, and 1000 boats of provisions. Besides this, there were the 50,000 men under the premier, and the royal army of Pegu. [The detail of the operations which followed is very tedious. All manner of stratagems were employed, and cruelties practised, by the Siamese. Nothing seemed to gratify the Siamese soldiery more than to be in ambush, and, when they found any opportunity, to rush forth, cut off the heads of the enemy, and bring them in as an offering to their commanders. Nâret, by protracting the contest, sometimes gaining, sometimes losing, until the rains were troublesome, secured his object of inducing the Peguan king to withdraw.]

The Kambojans, on hearing that the Peguans had marched into Siam, were much gratified, and immediately raised 10,000 men to assail the Siamese from the east. They advanced and took possession of Prachin. When this was known at the capital, the king was at a loss to understand the cause of it. Nâret, though he knew, was unwilling to reveal it, but urged his father to send an army and drive the Kambojans from the country; his father yielded, and success attended the enterprise. On the part of the monarch of Pegu, though he had withdrawn for a season, he had not given up the contest. On reaching home, he collected great stores of ammunition, and raised

an army of half a million, with 3000 elephants, and 10,000 horses: he brought all the forces of the governors of Prome and of Chiangmai into his service, and in the close of the year 932, commenced his march, crossed the Salween at Martaban, and proceeded by Kámpéngpet towards the Siamese capital. Náret made a few desperate struggles with the enemy; and, as the rains had already commenced, the Peguans returned home.

940. Mahá Thamma rájá was visited with severe illness in the 8th month, and deceased in the 12th, at the age of 76, after a reign of twenty-two, and Náret ascended the throne at the age of thirty-five. One of the first acts of his reign was an attempt to wreak his vengeance on the Kambojans, for their assault of Práchini. Against them he sent an army of 100,000 men. The Peguans were also watching another opportunity for an assault, and made preparations for a second campaign.

941. The premier of Pegu and the governor of Chiangmai raised an army of 500,000 men, 700 elephants, and 3000 horses, and passing Martaban proceeded to a place called the three Pagodas. Náret was preparing to start in person for Kamboja, and gave directions to one of his nobles to guard the country securely, for though he did not think the Peguans would venture to come again, still it was proper to be on his guard, as they might be mad enough to make another effort. On the evening of the same day, a message came that the Peguans had already advanced far into the Siamese territories. Náret affected to care but little about the matter, and coldly remarked, 'Well! I was going to visit Kamboja, but I must go and have a little sport with these Peguans first.' [Here the history goes into a long and tedious detail of marches and manœuvres, on both sides, the height of their elephants in cubits and inches, with all their magnificent names, the disposition of their forces, and their armor, the dress and rank of the officers, their dreams and interpretations, the various omens, &c. The result was that Náret killed the Peguan premier in a personal contest, and took 20,000 prisoners, with a large number of horses and elephants.] While the conflict between the two armies was going on, such clouds of dust were raised, that they could not see each other. Náret cried out to the Thewadás, 'My object is the advancement of our religion; why do not you dissipate these clouds of dust?' While he was yet speaking, there sprung up a breeze which swept all the dust away, and hence his success! On his return, Náret dispatched an army to conquer Tenasserim, and Tavoy. The king of Pegu, when he was apprized of the death of his son the premier, and the rout of his army, was both grieved and angry. Apprehending that the next move of Náret would be to march into his territories, but supposing that an attack would probably be first made on Tenasserim, Tavoy, and Mergui, he dispatched thither a body of troops for their defense. The governor of Chiangmai, supposing that, as a matter of course, Náret would march against Pegu, and that nothing could resist his might, concluded it would be the preferable course to tender his submission to Náret at once. This was proffered, and accepted

by Náret with much joy. Soon after, a disturbance arising between one of the provinces of Chiangmai and Lánchá'ng or South Laos, application was made to Náret for assistance in quelling it. He sent a small body of troops. On their arrival at the scene, the forces of Lánchá'ng were struck with such awe and dread of Náret, that they quietly withdrew. The forces sent to take Tenasserim and Tavoy went in two detachments, that to Tenasserim, under the command of Phýáchakri, and that to Tavoy, under the prakhláng. The former having subdued Tenasserim, hired a European sloop, and two mussulman vessels, and sent them, with 150 war boats and 10,000 men, by way of sea to Tavoy, to aid, if there were any occasion, in the subjugation of that place, but it had been taken before their arrival, and before the arrival of the forces from Pegu for its defense. Those forces also were encountered and routed. Temporary governors, &c., were appointed, and the troops returned to the capital, with many captives and considerable plunder. [Here close the events of the year 942 of the Siamese era, A. D. 1581.]

943. Náret remarked, 'Tenasserim, Mergui, Tavoy, and Chiangmai, are already mine; there is then no present prospect of a war with Pegu: I must therefore proceed to take vengeance on Kamboja.' Hence he collected an army of 100,000 men, 800 elephants, and 1,500 horses, and proceeded by land to Phichit. The king of Kamboja raised 100,000 men and stationed them at Phóthisat, and 15,000 at Batabong. Náret made a conquest of both encampments, and proceeded to the Kambojan capital [which at the time, as well as the whole country, was called Lawèk]. Here, after an unsuccessful siege of three months, his provisions failed, and he was obliged to return home, disappointed of his object, but with fixed determination to try another campaign the ensuing year.

944. But before the accomplishment of his purpose, he was called to a fresh trial of his prowess against the Peguans. The king of Pegu had expected an attack to be made by the Siamese the previous year, but, as his fears were disappointed, he felt anxious to know the posture of affairs, and dispatched the governor of Prome with a body of troops to reconnoiter the frontiers, and ascertain whether Náret was still at the head of the government. If so, he had a strict charge not to injure so much as a blade of grass. The governor, supposing he could perform some extraordinary feats which would more than counterbalance his disobedience, passed into the Siamese territories and began to fortify himself. Information was speedily transmitted to Náret, who started as a lion from his lair, and soon drove him back to Pegu, with only half of his army. The Peguan king was angry, and ordered him to be put to death, which sentence, by the urgent request of many, was commuted to a privation of all his dignities.

ART. IV. *First annual Report of the General Committee of the Canton Chamber of Commerce, to which are subjoined the decisions of the committee, approved at a public meeting of the Chamber on Saturday, November 4th, 1837.*

THE Committee of the General Chamber of Commerce, previously to the cessation of their functions, have the pleasure of submitting to the members the opinions they have arrived at, on various points of general interest, which have from time to time been referred to them, and which, unless otherwise determined at the general meeting, to be held on Saturday, the 4th November, they propose shall be considered as constituting the established usage of the port. The committee have not sought officiously to advance opinions, unless applied to, under an impression that it is inexpedient to raise discussion on points regarding which no doubt is expressed, and that a general code of regulations for the business of the port can be best laid down, from the slow growth of practice, as developed in the decisions of the Chamber, on such questions as may be from time to time submitted. The committee have, in like manner, abstained from attempting to redress grievances, in cases where their aid has not been especially requested, from a conviction that, under the peculiar circumstances in which foreigners are placed in this country, much evil is apt to ensue from such attempts, when unattended with success, and the greatest caution is necessary to avoid diminishing, by a display of failure, the influence (however inconsiderable) which they possess.

The compilation of the year's trade statements will, probably, be considered as the most useful of the committee's labors, and these they regret will be found more imperfect than could be desired, owing to the Chamber having been formed at so late a period, that most of the ships of the season had taken their departure before the secretary entered on the functions of his office, from which cause the difficulties of the task were greatly increased. But, from the total want of official sources, the work must, under any circumstances, be one of difficulty and uncertainty, requiring not only the greatest forbearance, but the cordial coöperation of all classes of the commercial community; and, on this head, the committee have pleasure in recording their grateful sense of the willing and able assistance which the secretary has uniformly received. The committee hope they are not too sanguine in anticipating greater accuracy, as well as promptness, in the publication of these reports in future years.

The obtaining of additional factory room was one of the earliest subjects recommended to the committee's consideration, but, having ascertained that not the smallest chance existed of its being granted at present, it was deemed best a little longer to forbear making application to government.

The committee's representation of the unsightly state of the space in front of the factories was well received by the senior hong merchant, who stated that scavengers were constantly employed by the cohong in keeping the square clean, and that two boats were always in attendance for the removal of dirt. The committee believe, that the vigilant attention of the foreign inhabitants, in noticing any neglect of duty that may occur on the part of those scavengers and of their own coolies, is all that is now necessary to prevent recurring nuisances. The cohong made an effort to remove the idle natives who occasionally crowd and obstruct this space, but were compelled to desist in consequence of a popular tumult, which had resulted from their interference, nearly attended with loss of life—the Chinese populace conceiving they have as good a right as foreigners to frequent the spot.

In consequence of a general wish that Canton should not be without a public time-keeper, and the only one it contained having belonged to the East India company, by whom it was lately ordered to be sold, the committee was requested by the foreign community to arrange for its purchase, which was effected for the sum of a thousand dollars, on the authority of a professional valuation. The clock-tower, however, having been in such a state of decay as to require renewal, and the space it occupied being required by the new tenants of the premises, it became necessary to erect it elsewhere, which required the expenditure of about a thousand dollars more, and both sums have yet to be recovered from the subscribers. The committee regret it was not in their power to obtain a more exposed site, or to give the tower a greater elevation, which the nature of the ground would not, but with very doubtful safety, have admitted of, besides, being fearful the work might have been interfered with and stopped from the superstitious prejudices of the Chinese, had it been exposed to their observation.

Various causes have prevented the completion of satisfactory arrangements for the establishing of a post-office. The committee have given unremitted attention to the subject, and are now in hopes that the arrangements and negotiations in progress will shortly enable captain Elliot, who has undertaken its management, to carry the wishes of the community into the fullest effect, while the same measures will restore to the Macao passage boats that regularity, of which the want has been lately so inconveniently felt.

The committee have placed themselves in correspondence with the Chambers of Commerce established at Bombay, Bengal, and Singapore, from each of which they have received the most friendly assurances of coöperation. At the request of the Bombay Chamber, inquiry has been instituted, as to the best mode of obviating the great inconvenience and losses those engaged in the Malwa opium trade sustain, from, as they seem to suppose, a different general appreciation of the quality of the drug here by the Chinese from that of the inspectors at Bombay. The report has hitherto been delayed, from the great attention the importance of the subject required, but in the

meantime musters have been prepared, and it is hoped, that these, and the information and suggestions to accompany them, cannot but prove of material advantage. In the inquiry the committee have to acknowledge much valuable assistance from the practical experience of captains Macondray and Parry, which they most ably detailed.

[*Note.* The preceding report was circulated in Canton, previous to the general meeting of the Chamber, on the 4th instant. An account of the origin of this institution will be found in our present volume, on page 44; its labors and success, so far as we are able to judge, are quite equal to the anticipations of its members and friends. In settling the usages of this port, and improving the condition of the foreign trade here, there is work enough yet to be done. We trust the Chamber will persevere in its labors, and be encouraged by increasing success. The subjoined document contains the decisions of the Chamber, since its organization.]

The following are the opinions of the committee on the various subjects to which they refer, submitted and approved at the general meeting.

Detention of vessels at Lintin. The committee of the Canton General Chamber of Commerce, having been applied to, for their opinion as to the period, for which inward-bound vessels may be justified in remaining at Lintin, to tranship cargo, where no provision has been made for such an occurrence: the following is the result of their deliberations.

1st. That all vessels bound for Whampoa, may remain fifteen days outside of the Bocca Tigris, for the purpose of receiving or delivering cargo, when there is no stipulation to the contrary, but any delay in proceeding to Whampoa, after that period has expired, should subject the vessel to all penalties, to which she would be liable elsewhere, for undue detention of goods.

2d. That vessels bound to Lintin, under agreement to unload there, may be required to retain their cargoes on board or pay for their being kept in a Lintin receiving vessel, for fifteen days after the consignees' letters reach Canton; at the end of which period, it should be incumbent on the consignees to receive them from on board.

Respecting the settlement of duties. In consequence of numerous complaints, lately brought under the notice of the Chamber of Commerce, of the vexatious detention of ships in not obtaining the grand chop, caused by the non-payment of duties on goods imported in them, the committee has resolved earnestly to recommend to the general body of foreign merchants of Canton to ascertain on, or shortly after, the landing of goods to their consignment, the rate of duty that is to be levied thereon. And for the purpose of preventing, as far as may be practicable, the levying of an excessive or extortionate duty, the committee would further recommend that, an efficient person from each consignee should always be present at the examination and measurement of goods by the mandarins, as well as, that the attendance of the hong merchant's purser should be procured. And finally, if notwithstanding these precautions, the mandarins should, nevertheless, persist in demanding an unreasonable rate of duty, the com-

mittee recommend, that complaint thereof should be forthwith sent to them, and they will use their endeavors to obtain redress in such manner as shall appear to them best calculated to obtain that end, it being distinctly understood that the object sought to be attained by such interference of the committee, between foreign merchants and the Chinese government, is that of preventing, as far as possible, the detention of vessels when ready for sea, for want of the grand chop.

Liability of ship-masters to discharge or receive cargo on Sunday. In reply to an inquiry, whether commanders of ships were bound to deliver or receive cargo on Sunday, the committee were unanimously of opinion, that they would be justified in refusing to do so.

Respecting homicide. An inquiry having been made as to whether it is the duty of commanders of vessels at Whampoa to detain in custody any of their crews, who may unfortunately become implicated in a case of Chinese homicide, a conversation ensued, in which it appeared to be the sense of the committee, that it belongs exclusively to the Chinese government to vindicate the authority of its own laws, by apprehending those who may be accused of violating them, and without undeniable proof of wilful murder, justly involving the extreme penalty of the law, it would be inexpedient for the commander of a vessel to detain the accused party; since it would be affording facilities to the Chinese, to enforce their barbarous and unjust demand of life for life, however much palliating circumstances may have occurred to modify the nature of the crime.

Payment of port charges by chartered vessels. The opinion of the committee was requested, "in the case of a chartered ship, where the owners are bound to victual and man the same, but the charterers to pay all port charges, to which party should the Whampoa compradore's cumshaw be charged?" The committee were unanimously of opinion, that the compradore's fee is at all times a charge to be borne by the ship, as a port charge.

Payment of freight. In answer to an appeal respecting payment of freight, for which no time has been specified in the bill of lading, the committee unanimously agreed, that freight is payable on delivery of the goods, when no agreement exists to the contrary: that, when not otherwise expressed, the freight of weighable goods is payable on the net weight delivered.

Question of insurance. An agreement had been made to insure 'merchandise' on Spanish vessels from Macao to Manila. Are the insurers entitled to refuse the risk on its being declared to be on wheat? The majority were of opinion, that an agreement to insure 'merchandise' would not, under the circumstances of this case, include wheat.

Charges on rice-laden vessels. After discussing the subject of charges on rice-laden vessels which are discharged at Whampoa, and comparing the separate statements, the sub-committee came to the conclusion, that it would be just and expedient to consider the sum paid to the hoppo, the accuracy of which in amount was satis-

factorily ascertained, as a charge on the vessel, and not on the rice. \$939.50

And, in addition thereto, the sum paid on each vessel to the linguist for procuring the grand chop, and satisfying the mandarins at Whampoa, the sub-committee are of opinion, should also be charged to the ship. 250.00

Making a total of Spanish dollars 1189.50

And that all other charges should fall on the rice. =====

Report of the sub-committee appointed 4th March, to take into consideration the period for which sellers of Malwa opium should be liable for loss of weight, damage, or inferiority.

Your sub-committee were of opinion that, three weeks to a month would be sufficient time to enable the holder of an order for opium to inspect it as to quality and weight, but being desirous that any alteration proposed should not injure the present negotiability of opium orders in the hands of the Chinese, one of the brokers was called in, (being the only one procurable,) and consulted on the subject; he entered into, and seemed fully to comprehend, the views of your committee, and thought that one month would satisfy the brokers, but he wished to consult with his principal and other brokers. Your committee would express, as their opinion, that one month from the date of an opium order should be allowed to the purchaser for ascertaining its weight and quality, after which all responsibility on the part of the grantor should cease, and that, a clause to this effect should be inserted in all delivery orders, in addition to the present clause of 'risk, expense, and responsibility.'

Questions respecting opium. When an allowance is made for inferiority of Malwa opium and a further allowance for short weight, whether the latter to be in proportion to the reduced, or the original price? The opinion was unanimous, that the allowance for short weight is to be computed from the value of the chest, after the deduction for inferiority has been made.

An opium order had been purchased from a Chinese, and the opium was transferred to the purchaser on board the receiving ship. Some months afterwards it was discovered that one of the chests was six balls short; upon whom should such deficiency fall? The committee was of opinion, that the delivery having been completed without objection made, no responsibility can attach to the grantors of the order.

To the question whether the drawer of an opium order is liable only to the Chinese broker to whom he sells, or to the holder, whoever he may be, the committee answered: the drawer of an opium order is answerable to the holder whoever he may be.

An opium order had been purchased from a Chinese and was retained upwards of six weeks in the possession of the buyer. On presentation, at the receiving ship, the contents were not fully delivered, but next day opium of similar quality was tendered to complete the order. The holder of the order requests to know, if he can be compelled to

accept other opium, or is he entitled to a compensation in money. It was the opinion of the committee, that, if the order had been sent on board the ship for the transfer of the opium, in reasonable time, the opium would have been forthcoming, and that, unless proof was adduced of its not having been on board for a reasonable time after the date of the order, the holder cannot claim any compensation beyond similar opium as tendered.

Respecting interest. The opinion of the committee was requested, as to whether it is the mercantile custom to allow interest in account to parties consigning to this port, the returns for which are to be partly in produce under hypothecation to the hon. East India Company, and partly in bills of exchange? The committee replied, that it is not the mercantile custom of Canton to allow interest on balances, or to keep an interest account with absent constituents, except under special arrangements.

In answer to a question on the subject, the committee came to the conclusion, that interest in accounts and otherwise, should be calculated at the rate of 365 and not 360 days per annum.

Damage, &c., on tea. Report of the sub-committee appointed to take into consideration the most expedient and equitable mode of settling with the Chinese for claims from abroad, for country damage and plunder of teas, and for inferiority to muster evidently fraudulent. It appears from the information of Mr. Lindsay, a member of the sub-committee and formerly of the East India Company's factory, that this body was in the habit of adopting three different modes of settlement, varying according to the nature of the loss for which compensation was to be recovered. In case of tea being entirely false packed, it was formerly the usage, as well in the East India Company's as in the American trade, to require, as compensation from the Chinese, two chests of tea for each one so found. But of late, it has been the more general practice among the Americans in all cases of damage or fraud, to regulate the amount of compensation by the loss actually sustained; estimating the claim at what the tea would have sold for if good, with the addition of interest at the rate of one per cent. per month to the date of recovery; or, calculating the exchange without interest at the current rate of bills drawn on Canton at the place of settlement. This course, it appears to the sub-committee, is the best for general adoption; and they recommend that, when practicable, in order to obviate the difficulty presented by a difference in the denomination of the currency in the two countries, the sum to be received be fixed by drawing a bill at the current rate of exchange, rather than by a charge of interest.

Report of the sub-committee appointed to consider and report upon the questions respecting insolvency. The inquiry on the subject having been read, it was agreed, that insolvency in Canton is constituted, as elsewhere, by the dishonor of an acceptance, &c.; that, in case of insolvency, and the bankrupt refusing to deliver his property for the benefit of his creditors, it is recommended, that publicity be resorted to, that his conduct may be exposed to deserved reprobation,

and the public put on its guard against granting him further credit. As no compulsory measures can be adopted in Canton, it is recommended, that merchants be mutually accomodating, and in all cases voluntarily and promptly pursue that course to which they could be compelled in countries where law prevails.

Arbitration regulations. 1. Each arbitration committee shall, in its award, fix such fee as it shall deem proper for the particular case, but sixteen dollars shall be considered the minimum, and one hundred dollars the maximum, of such charge.

2. The arbitration fee shall be payable by the losing party, but the committee have power to alter this rule, when they see occasion.

3. In respect to reference, the general committee may charge or remit fees, but if fees should be charged, forty dollars shall be the maximum, and five dollars the minimum, of each case.

4. As references to the committee of arbitration may, in some instances, involve private matters, and it may be desirable that the names of parties, documents, and evidence, should be considered confidential, while the decision of the committee with the leading point are on the records for general information; a full report of the grounds of the decisions of the committee shall be entered in an arbitration book, to be kept for that purpose, and to this book access shall be had by members of the Chamber, on a requisition of six members to the general committee, two thirds of whom must concur.

As a branch or member of a public body, the arbitration committee is to be considered a public committee, but, in practice, when so required by either party submitting a question to its decision (with the knowledge of the other), it is in the strictest sense a private committee, in which case the members are pledged to honorable secrecy, and the safe-keeping of the papers.

P. S. At a general meeting, held on the 22d, and since the first part of this article was in type, two changes were made in the regulations of the Chamber. For the 8th regulation, as it stands on page 45, in our present volume, the following was substituted.

"Reg. 8. The annual general meeting, for the purpose of electing the committee, shall be held on the first Monday in November; when *the members then in office shall go out, but, with the following exceptions, shall be liable to serve again if reelected.* The exceptions are, one English member, one American member, one Parsee member—whose period of consecutive service has been the longest, or, if more than one have served an equal period, to be determined by lot at the meeting of the committee, immediately preceding the election—one, the member representing any nation, making four members who shall not be reëligible. Nor, after being on the committee for two years, in succession, and giving notice to the secretary, one day before the election, of his unwillingness to serve longer, shall it be compulsory on any out-going member, to take office for a third year."

Reg. 19th was altered by substituting the word 'lot' for the word 'ballot,' in the second line.

ART. V. *The third annual report of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge in China: read at the general meeting held in Canton, Nov. 20th, 1837.*

The third annual meeting of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge in China, was held in the American Hong, No. 2, on Monday, the 20th of November, 1837, at 11 A. M. The meeting having been opened, and the chair taken, by the president, W. Jardine, esq., the following report was then read by the secretary.

THREE years have already elapsed since this Society commenced its career: and still, your committee have to advert to the inadequacy of the means, for extending, among the Chinese, an acquaintance with the principles and phenomena of nature, and their applicabilities to the improvement of many useful arts; or for imparting the knowledge of the past and present state of the many countries into which the world is divided, the majority of which are at present hardly known to them even by name. Did any desire for such knowledge exist, the want of means for imparting it would indeed be a source of regret, far deeper than is now felt. Until, however, such a desire is excited, one work, calculated to arouse interest, is of much greater value than scores of works, unacceptable either from the style of writing, from the subjects treated of, or from the mode adopted in treating them. Some measure of unacceptableness on account of style must, for the present, attend all the publications of the Society, they being necessarily tainted with foreign idioms, and adapted to foreign modes of thought and expression. Nor, if it is called to mind, that upon only three individuals has hitherto devolved the task of preparing works for publication, will it appear surprising, that, amid the vast assemblage of subjects claiming attention, some should be selected that are not the most congenial to a Chinese mind; or that, where the subjects to be treated of are so various, some should be handled in a manner not the most lucid or attractive. These considerations must, of necessity, induce those on whom it rests to give effect to the wishes of the Society, to pause and carefully to ascertain their powers, ere they undertake to write on any subject; and to offer their writings for publication with no slight degree of hesitation.

While they make these remarks, with the view of accounting for the smallness of the work that has yet been accomplished, your committee at the same time see no cause for discouragement. So long as they behold the efforts made by various institutions for extending the benefits of education among the rising generation of the Chinese, and, especially, while they witness the judiciously devised and well directed labors of the Morrison Education Society, they feel assured that no long period will elapse, before native coadjutors will rally

around them, who will be not alone thoroughly grounded in the knowledge now possessed only in the west; but will, at the same time, by intimate acquaintance with their own language, and the modes of thought of their own countrymen, be fully capacitated to diffuse that knowledge among all the sons of Han. In the meanwhile, it devolves upon us to stand in the gap, and to maintain possession of the field of labor on which we desire that they should hereafter enter. But your committee would suggest the inquiry whether we cannot do more than this; whether we may not materially second the labors of the various educational institutions, by the preparation of elementary treatises, in a simple and easy style, for the use of those who are passing through a course of instruction. Assuredly, a child will make advancements in knowledge more speedily through the medium of his own, than through that of a foreign language. When that foreign language is already acquired, and is no longer a subject of study, doubtless he should be referred to works in it for extending his information; but, until then, we cannot view the foreign medium of communicating knowledge in any other light than as an impediment in the way of the desired acquisition.

More clearly to ascertain what is the knowledge of which the Chinese stand in need, it will not be amiss to glean a few facts respecting the measure of knowledge which is already in their possession. At the first step, it must evidently appear, that in all that regards history and geography, other than their own, a people so exclusive must, necessarily, have but very confused and inaccurate conceptions. And, though making every allowance for the advantages arising from the wide extent and varying characteristics of the several regions which the empire includes, it may yet be fairly presumed, that great deficiency is to be found in all that relates to those branches of knowledge most open to improvement by the intercommunion of nations.

The best means of obtaining a general view of existing Chinese literature will probably be, to run over the catalogue of works contained in the imperial library at Peking. We may hereafter find occasion to pay more particular attention to the several departments of Chinese literature, while at present we confine ourselves to a cursory inspection of the whole circle of it. Adopting the Chinese arrangement, the grand departments of literature are four; namely, classical writings, comprising chiefly morals and education; history, including geography; professional writings; and belles lettres.

In the department of classical writings, the works are ranged under nine sections. One section is devoted to each of the Five Classics, and to works illustrating and commenting upon the same. The subjects of these five are,—general philosophy, as supposed to have been taught by Fuhe, the reputed founder of the Chinese empire; political philosophy, as taught by the sage monarchs Yaou and Shun; political morals, as taught by the popular voice in national songs and ballads; the proprieties of conduct, deportment, and manner, in the varied intercourse of social life; and the annals compiled by Confucius, of his own native state. A sixth section of classical literature, is devoted to

works illustrating an ancient treatise on filial piety. A seventh comprises all works illustrating the five classics, *as a whole*. The remaining sections comprise—works bearing on the Four Books in which the instructions of Confucius and Mencius are recorded; works on the subject of music and its harmonizing influences; and works on early education. Several of the classical works which, form the foundation of this first department of Chinese literature, have already, by means of translations, been placed within the reach of the European public. From these we are enabled to perceive to how low an elevation in philosophy the most esteemed sages of China have attained. Some of the writers classed as *professional* give also their systems of philosophy; but these are not in the present age very extensively read.

Under the second department, that of historical works, we have,—the national histories, those compiled from the public records of the ruling and paramount state; annals and histories drawn from these by private individuals; accounts of distinct events and proceedings, disconnected from the general course of history; histories of subject states, as distinct from the records of the ruling dynasty; mixed histories; collections of official documents; memoirs of individuals; histories, extracted from the national records, but moulded into a different form; histories of states not dependencies of the ruling Chinese dynasty (not extending beyond Cochinchina and Corea); treatises in reference to times and seasons; geographical and topographical works; memoirs of various portions of the administration, with lists of successive office-bearers; treatises on the constitution and machinery of government; books of reference, comprising works explanatory of particular customs and observances, antiquities, inscriptions, &c.; and, lastly, critical investigations of history. The whole number of these sections is fifteen. Among these, if we except a very few historical works relating to states really tributary, such as Corea and Cochinchina, the only works bearing on foreign countries are to be found under the section of geographical and topographical writings.

Occasionally, foreign countries are made the subject of a few concluding sections in a large topographical compilation, as in the General Topography of the empire of the Mantchous, the General Topography of the province Kwangtung, and some similar works. In this manner, information regarding bordering tribes is given in the topographical publications of frontier provinces, or, where those provinces are maritime, as Kwangtung and Fuhkeën, a few facts are to be met with in regard to nations frequenting the commercial marts. The best general account of foreign countries, limited however by the boundaries of Asia, is that contained in the concluding chapters of Ma T'wanlin's Universal Investigations. The information given is, however, so scanty, that even by the help of the descriptions, many of the names applied to the smaller Asiatic states, cannot be at all recognised. A few works have been written by the Chinese referring solely to other countries than their own. These are—an Account of

the nation of Budha, by a traveled Buddhist; an Account of the western regions under the Tang dynasty; Plates and narrative, by an envoy to Corea; Account of foreigners, published, under the Ming dynasty, by a person residing in one of the commercial cities of Fuhkeën; Laughable stories of the Wooke savages; Memoir on the customs and the country of Kamboja, published by an envoy to that country about the time of Marco Polo; brief Account of the barbarous island regions, by a traveler under the Mongol dynasty; an Elogy of Corea; Sayings of the seas, a compilation of hearsay accounts derived from merchants who had traveled over the Indian Archipelago; Researches in the eastern and western oceans, an enlargement of the 'Accounts of foreigners;' Memoirs of countries beyond the imperial rule, by a European; Ungarnished beauties; Account of Corea; Maps and explanatory accounts of the whole world, by a European, characterized by the Chinese as not free from embellishment, yet not wholly false; Records of foreign regions, by an envoy to the Tourgouth Tartars in the early part of the last century, giving an interesting account of the Russian territories through which the envoy traveled; Record of things heard and seen in the nations of the seas, by a naval officer, who, when a boy, had been abroad.—Of the works which we have thus enumerated, two have been translated, the 'Memoir respecting Kamboja' by the late M. Remusat, and the 'Records of foreign regions' by sir George Staunton; these two are among the best of the works on foreign countries. On a review of the pretensions of the major part of the above named works, it is plain, that the Chinese are wholly dependent on hearsay accounts for information regarding foreign lands, with the sole exception of those in their own immediate neighborhood. The two works by Europeans are antiquated, nor are they readily to be met with. Three only of the works above enumerated comprise more than two or three of the very thin volumes into which Chinese books are divided.

The professional writings, which form the third department of Chinese literature, are arranged in fourteen sections. The first comprises the writings of the literati, or philosophers of the Confucian sect, with all their minor varieties of doctrine. The subjects, as in the department of classical literature, are, philosophy in general, but chiefly moral philosophy as applied to political and social relations—and education. Some of the philosophical speculations of the followers of Confucius are probably such as to be preferred by foreigners to those of the great master himself; but to show fully the degree of value to be attached to these writings would require extensive research, and no very brief treatises. The philosophical principles, or the theogony and cosmogony, of the Buddhists, and of the followers of Laoukeun, are placed in the two last sections of this department of literature, and several other works on general philosophy are ranged under the tenth section, among miscellaneous professional writings. The intermediate sections, between the Confucianist writings and these last, are occupied by works on military, legal, agricultural, medical, astronomical and mathematical, and astrological subjects, on

the fine arts, and on 'collections' or 'classifications.' In the section of agricultural works are included treatises on the culture of the mulberry, the rearing of the silk-worm, and the manufacture of silk and other fabrics. The section of collections is subdivided into two parts, collections of manufactured things, and of natural productions; the former comprising, chiefly, coins, inks, and a few other objects of antiquarian research; the latter comprehending several divisions of natural history, minerals, metals, ornaments of stone, and drawings of flowers, blended with some information respecting the preparation of teas, wines, &c. On natural history, however, the best work is found in the section of medical writings, being compiled rather as a *materia medica* than as a work on natural history. The tenth section, as already mentioned, comprises miscellaneous professional, chiefly philosophical, writings. The eleventh section comprehends various encyclopædial works. The twelfth includes the drama, novel, and romance. The thirteenth and fourteenth are devoted to Budhistic writings, and writings of the followers of Laoukeun, or disciples of the sect of Taou.

The last department of Chinese works is chiefly confined to elegant literature. It is divided into five sections: 1. The poetry of Tsou, the classic poetry of the Chinese; 2. Individual collections of essays, epistles, inscriptions, poetry, &c., among which are included many very valuable essays and narratives relating to a great variety of subjects; 3. General collections of the literary writings of various individuals; 4. Writings on the art of poetical composition; and 5. Poetical writings, odes, songs, &c.

From this cursory review which we have taken of Chinese literature, we are enabled to perceive what is the range of existing knowledge in this country. A philosophy, which, leaving alone all speculations concerning the origin and future state of man, confines itself almost wholly to the relations between man and man in this life, occupies one fourth portion. A history and a geography almost exclusively national occupy another fourth portion; while the existence of other nations, and the practical lessons to be learned from the rest of mankind, are almost wholly forgotten. With the exception of agriculture and weaving, the useful arts of life find hardly any place in Chinese literature. Mechanic and chemical sciences are scarcely thought of. Medicine we know to consist, for the most part, of mere quackery. Astronomical and mathematical sciences are chiefly derived from Europeans, and the knowledge of them is confined to a very few persons; while the vagaries of astrology and divination find a place not only in their literature, but also in the arrangements of government. Natural history is regarded only as an adjunct to medical science, if the practice of medicine among the Chinese can be dignified with the name of science. Seeing that so many are the defects of Chinese literature, it becomes our imperative duty to exert our utmost energies to supply their lack of knowledge.

In their last report, your committee presented a plan of operations, sketching the outlines of what was regarded as most demanding

attention in the performance of this duty. Progress has been made towards filling up this outline. The view of universal history is still in the press; but will, it is hoped, be very shortly published. The history of the United States of America is in part completed, and will probably be sent to press in the course of January or February next. A history of England, the wooden blocks for printing which are already engraved, has been presented by the president, and, after careful revision, will be published. A history of the Jews, similar in some respects to Milman's, is in preparation. In the preparation of works on other subjects, but little progress has yet been made. Each department of knowledge has been in some degree noticed in the monthly magazine; but no complete work has yet been undertaken, with the exception of the introduction to universal geography. A small work on general geography, in the form of a traveler's narrative of what he had seen,—as also a short treatise on the being of a God, adopting the principal arguments used by Paley,—both by the late Rev. Dr. Morrison, have been presented by the English secretary. These works will, after thorough revision, be sent to press.

A small work in Japanese has been presented by Mr. Gutzlaff, drawn up by himself, in concert with some Japanese living under his care. The subject of the work is international intercourse; and the arrangement is into three chapters,—the first showing the principles of intercourse between men and nations, as being all the work of the same God, and descended from one common ancestor,—the second chapter giving a general view of the sovereignties into which the world is divided,—and the third treating of international commerce. While the plan of the work was approved by your committee, it was thought doubtful whether, not being written in the Chinese language, it could come within the scope of the Society's labors. The subject is therefore now brought forward, to afford to the Society an opportunity of declaring its views as to works designed for countries, the languages of which are cognate to, though not the same as, that of China.

The subject of metallic moveable types has on two former occasions been brought before the Society, with reference to the labors of Mr. Dyer at Malacca, and of M. Pauthier at Paris. Those gentlemen continue successfully to prosecute their labors in that department. Your committee have also had under consideration, the propriety of making an application for the moveable types prepared by the East India Company for printing Dr. Morrison's Chinese dictionary, which types remain still in this country. Your committee have lately resolved to make an application to the honorable the Court of Directors to grant these types to the Society, upon the Society engaging, on its part, to undertake the printing of any works, combining the English and Chinese languages, which the Court of Directors may hereafter desire to have published, printing the same free of all other than the necessary charges for labor and materials.

Only one subject remains to be brought by your committee to the notice of the present meeting. This is, an inquiry as to the measures that should be adopted regarding the circulation of the Society's pub-

lications in this country. Liable, as they are, on account of the marks which they must bear of foreign hands, to be discountenanced by this government, natives will seldom be found willing to sell them on behalf of the Society. Your committee would, therefore, request this meeting to give to the subject its most careful consideration, that their successors for the ensuing year may be furnished with instructions how to act in reference to this important subject.

The treasurer's account for the past year shows but a small expenditure; there have been however some bills drawn against him which have not yet become payable; there are also several works in part completed, the costs of which have not yet been charged to the Society. The funds now in the hands of the treasurer amount to \$1558.23.

In conclusion, your committee may be permitted to allude to the encouragement it has derived, from the fact of a professorship of the Chinese language having lately been established in London. The first appointment has been given, it is believed, to the Society's corresponding member, the Rev. Samuel Kidd. As a taste for the study of the ancient and unique language of this country is spread among the people of western nations, we may be encouraged to look forward to the formation of a larger band of coadjutors in the work of supplying the deficiencies of Chinese literature.

The report having been read, it was moved by J. Matheson, esq., seconded by E. Moller, esq., and unanimously resolved —

That the Report just read be accepted.

The meeting next proceeded to take into consideration the question, whether Mr. Gutzlaff's treatise in the Japanese language, on international intercourse, could, consistently with the constitution of the Society, be considered within the scope of its labors; when it was moved by the Rev. P. Parker, seconded by J. Matheson, esq., and unanimously resolved —

That, whilst this meeting is happy to hear of the existence of such a work in the Japanese language, it regrets that it does not come within the specific object of the Society, as stated in its second regulation, to publish it, the work being in the language of another nation.

In reference to the circulation of the society's publications, it was moved by the Rev. E. C. Bridgman, seconded by J. Matheson, esq., and unanimously resolved —

That the committee be directed to take efficient measures to circulate the publications of the society, and, if necessary, to circulate them gratuitously.

On the motion of the Rev. P. Parker, seconded by E. Moller, esq., it was unanimously resolved —

That the officers for the ensuing year be as follows, the secretaries being requested to continue their services as heretofore :

R. Turner, esq., president ; J. Matheson, esq., treasurer ; J. C. Green, esq., R. H. Cox, esq., and John Slade, esq., members of the committee ; Rev. E. C. Bridgman, and Rev. C. Gutzlaff, Chinese secretaries ; J. R. Morrison, esq., English secretary.

A vote of thanks having been made to the officers of the past year for their services, the meeting was then dissolved.

ART. VI. *Edicts of the Chinese government directed against the illicit trade in opium, at Lintin, and on the coast.*

[We insert the following translations of edicts directed against the opium trade, in continuance of those which have already appeared in the Repository. The first is the substance of a representation from the government of Fuhkeën to that of Canton; the second and third are from the naval commander-in-chief in Fuhkeën to the commanders of foreign vessels there; the fourth and fifth are from the government of Canton, calling on the British superintendent, captain Elliot, to expel the receiving ships.]

No. 1.

Communication from Chung, the governor of Fuhkeën and Che-keäng, and Wei, the lieutenant-governor of Fuhkeën, addressed to the governor of Kwangtung and Kwangse.

We formerly discovered, that certain depraved individuals, people of the district Tsinkeäng, by name She How, &c., had formed combinations with foreigners engaged in the sale of the filthy opium, supplying them with rice and other provisions, and, as there was great reason to fear, joining also in other unlawful acts. We felt that we could not neglect to adopt measures for apprehending and punishing such parties. We in consequence caused She How and other depraved people to be apprehended, and brought to the capital for trial; and we appended to our memorial to the throne a report respecting them. All this is on record.

The several offenders have now been successively apprehended, and, on examination of them, it appears, that She How and other depraved natives of the province of Fuhkeën, in concert with Wang Macheih and other depraved natives of the province of Kwangtung, were associated with foreigners, for the purpose of acquiring gain by the sale of the drug. The scoundrels of the province Kwangtung get on board the foreign vessels to conceal themselves. These vessels, while for years past military operations have been going on against the sale of the drug, have been constantly cruising through the seas of Fuhkeën, disposing of the drug on the wide and open sea. On shore, there are mat houses erected, as secret places for storing up the opium. This combination existing, they have continued to go and come, and have never been entirely cut off.

The acting prefect of Tseuenchow foo (Chinchew), Chin Joohan, with his colleagues, has now destroyed all the mat sheds, formerly erected by these criminal parties, and has successively apprehended those persons who, in this province, have been guilty of combining to effect the sale of the drug, to the number of forty-two, by name She Shae-kwang, &c., all of whom have been tried and investigated with the utmost severity. There have also been seized vessels, with money, in taels and in foreign dollars, and weapons. Thus the village-dwelling people, all over the country, have learned to take warning and to stand in fear.

But the scoundrels of Kwangtung, being with the foreign scoundrels on board the ships, are no sooner seen than they again disappear. On the accompanying chart of the seas, all beyond the red line is the wide and open sea, unmarked by particular localities, where, consequently, it is difficult to follow in pursuit; and whither it is inexpedient, on every slight occasion, to put the naval forces at the trouble of pursuing. But these depraved foreigners, having now carried on the sale of the drug for a long period, must have obtained very considerable profits, which it will be impossible that they should in one day abandon. They will take every occasion of cruising about; and, waiting to observe the progress of circumstances, they will linger out their stay. It is imperatively necessary then to watch carefully, and diligently to search and apprehend, in order that the coast-guard may impress men with fear, and that, by this means, other calamities may be averted.

The admiral of Fuhkeën, Chin, has authority in all these seas, and his head-quarters, too, are not far from the cruising grounds of the opium ships. I, the governor, have therefore requested him to make it the particular duty of the vice-admirals and commanders of squadrons under him, from time to time to institute special investigations, in order to conduct this affair to a happy conclusion, and also himself to set them the example of so doing,—with the confident hope, that thus the depraved natives may be apprehended, and the foreign ships be deprived of all resting place. We fear, however, that the foreigners—a crafty and impracticable race—if they be not made previously to have a full knowledge thereof, will, when the military come to search and apprehend, venture to offer resistance, and when wounded, will not be without some pretext for complaint. This combination for the sale of opium, being in opposition to the laws and prohibitions of the celestial empire, must also be such an act as the foreign nations can with difficulty suffer. Now Macao, in the province of Kwangtung, is a place where are many officers and chief supercargoes of the various countries, conducting commercial operations; and it is right immediately to enjoin commands on them in reference hereto. It is therefore incumbent on us to address you [the governor of Kwangtung, &c.], that you may give commands to all such chief supercargoes, requiring that they trace out every existing combination for the sale of the drug, and that they immediately command the foreigners so combining speedily to sail away, so that they may be dealt with according to the laws of their own nation; by which means any undistinguishing apprehension and punishment of depraved foreigners may be avoided. And henceforth, on the arrival of foreign vessels at Macao, as well as at their departure, it is of the first importance that the aforesaid supercargoes should make very rigorous examination, and should not permit any one clandestinely to pass over the bounds, or, by combining with natives for the sale of the drug, to give rise to troublesome affairs.

The depraved natives of the province Kwangtung, whose names have been ascertained, Wang Macheih and others, are ever and anon

coming and going. We have drawn out a list of their names and surnames, and their places of residence, requesting that your excellency will strictly direct the naval and civil officers of your province, diligently and with secrecy to search for and apprehend them. Our hope is, that they will assuredly be apprehended and committed for trial and punishment. The civil and naval officers of the province of Fuhkeën, though they have already apprehended many offenders, shall yet again be strictly commanded to continue the search with the utmost energy and vigor; and shall not be permitted in the least degree to relax their exertions. We further trust that you will favor us with information of the orders issued by you, and of the resulting apprehensions and trials, that the full measure of public advantage may be supplied. For this we stand impatiently waiting and looking forward. (Received on the 3d of September.)

No. 2.

CHIN, commander-in-chief of the naval forces in Fuhkeën and of the troops of Formosa, and Tow, commanding in Kinmun and other places,—again issue their plain commands.

By the statutes of the celestial empire, you of the foreign ships are permitted only to trade in Kwangtung, and are not allowed to pass over into other provinces. The established laws thus restrict you. But you foreigners are disobedient to these restraints, and are continually coming to cruise about in the seas of Fuhkeën; and as soon as you leave one place, you appear in some other, keeping in no fixed place. Thus do you indeed transgress the laws. Moreover, you are dealers in opium, thus rendering yourselves still further obnoxious to the prohibitory regulations. Now, the great man our governor has reported respecting you to the great emperor, and has also written to the governor of Kwangtung and Kwangse, to command your chief supercargoes to compel you to return to Canton, and no longer to permit you to pass the bounds. He has at the same time directed us to come hither and drive you away.

I, the admiral, cannot bear to cut you off without warning; and did therefore lately issue special orders to you, hastening your speedy departure, that all may be quiet and free from trouble. But, for several weeks that I, the admiral, have been at sea observing your courses, I have found you now sailing up, now down, the coast; but always refusing to return southward as far as to Kwangtung. When you have been pursued by my naval vessels, you have indeed got under weigh: but as soon as you have drawn them into the outer seas, you have again approached the coast. Though you have assumed the outward appearance of dutiful respect; yet you have shown your purposes really deceitful and false. Would it be difficult for me, the admiral, to direct my whole fleet to surround and cut you off, and thus by one effort to secure eternal quiet? But I consider that you are yet ignorant, and therefore again issue orders for your information. All your foreign vessels must speedily return southward, in obedience to the laws, and proceed to Kwangtung to trade. Not a vessel must be allowed

to linger behind. If you dare again to oppose, and longingly hang on, delaying to depart—if when driven away on the upper part you escape to the lower part of the coast,—or if on your departure from one place you proceed to another,—I, the admiral, can then do no otherwise than call together my fleet, and open a fire on you from my guns. Say not, that you were not told beforehand. Tremble hereat! A special order.

Taoukwang, 17th year, 8th month, 2d day (1st September, 1837).

No. 3.

CHIN, commander-in-chief of the naval forces of Fuhkeën, and of the troops of Formosa, and Tow, commanding in Kinmun and other places, again issue their orders to the commanders of foreign vessels, requiring them to be fully acquainted therewith.

I, the commander-in-chief of the navy, treat men with liberality and indulgence, and it is my aim to be kind and compassionate. I lately sent you a special order, speedily to return southward to Canton, that all necessity for having recourse to weapons might be removed. I could not bear to cut you off, unwarned; but I did this, with the conviction, that first should come polite treatment, and afterwards martial force. Yet you, foreigners, persist in unvarying folly, and presume to seek for mutual intercourse between the vessels of barbarians and of the Chinese; saying, that such intercourse has been of common occurrence,—that with your cargoes of woollens you wish to trade, and are willing to pay duty thereon,—and that you *must* have harmonious intercourse granted, in answer to your requests. It is hence manifest, that you obey not my admonitions, but are disposed to resist.

Ask, now, yourselves, in regard to your expectations that traitorous natives will afford you supplies, who—while I, the naval commander-in-chief, am anchored here, with a whole fleet of vessels of war—will dare to have intercourse with you, or will venture to take small boats alongside? Here is one point of view, in which, though you remain at anchor, looking around, and cherishing hopes, yet it is plain you will, after all, be unable to carry on your cunning and would-be clever practices.

Moreover, the admitted laws of our celestial empire permit your vessels to trade only at Canton, and allow you not to pass over the bounds into other provinces. Though you say, that your cargoes consist of woollens, yet you cannot be suffered to dispose of them among the people. At the end of the summer of this present year, the great man, our governor, sent a memorial to the great emperor, saying that he had resolved to command you to return to Canton, and not to permit you, after the manner of past years, to come and go at your own pleasure. He also took the depraved natives of the families of Shay and She (who, on examination, confessed their intercourse with foreigners), and executed the laws upon all of them; so that no depraved native, who has the least regard for himself or his family, will for a moment dare again to have intercourse or to traffic with you.

Besides which, all along the coast, the civil and naval officers are at present numerous as the stars, and orderly arranged as pieces on a chess-board, so that in every spot they are at hand to search and apprehend. Here, again, it is plain, that your looking about and cherishing hopes will be but labor in vain, and that you will find no relief.

I, the commander-in-chief, have received a communication from the great man our governor, desiring that I should myself put to sea, and at the head of the naval fleet drive you away. Obey, and you shall be treated with kindness: resist, and you shall be overwhelmed with terrors. I, the commander-in-chief, have not made a display of terrors, omitting to manifest goodness. I began with giving orders for your general information. Yet, you presumed to reply in the language of resistance. But, while you use absurd and contumacious language, and indulge foolish expectations, I cannot allow you to indulge in illegal conduct and foolish actions. So long as your ships defer their return, even so long will I delay my departure. I will then call together the fleets of Kinnun and Heämun (Quemoy and Amoy), and will try with you our relative positions, and enable you to compare the respective results of obedience and contumacy. I fear that, with only two ships, and in a distant province, and your powder, your water, and your grain, no longer flowing in to renew your supplies, repentance will come to you when it is too late.

We, therefore, again give you our special commands. Can you be induced to obey the laws of the celestial empire, and to follow the wishes of the officers appointed by the court? These officers have rules—rules are laws—which it is indeed a hard matter in the least degree to transgress. Return, then, immediately southward to Canton; and you will do well. If you will not, you can no longer be thus indulgently treated; but must immediately be attacked and fired on. We will lead on our vessels, and will command the whole squadron forthwith to discharge their guns and attack you. Say not that this nation has no tenderness towards foreigners, no gracious intentions. It is for yourselves to choose between honor and disgrace. After these our commands, if there be any further folly and stupidity shown, and you do not reform, we cannot again stop to give you orders. Tremble with fear! These are our special orders.

No. 4.

TANG, the governor of Kwangtung and Kwangse, and Ke, lieut.-governor of Kwangtung, issue these commands to the senior hong merchants for their full information.

On the 3d of August, we received, from the grand council of state, copy of an imperial edict, dated 14th July, of the following tenor:

‘Owing to the exportation of silver carried on from all the ports along the coast, and in consideration of the important bearing of this upon the national resources and the livelihood of the people, we have already, in repeated instances, declared our pleasure, requiring all the governors and lieut.-governors of the provinces faithfully to make examination and to act in this matter.

'Today, again, the sub-censor Le Pankew has laid before us a memorial, to this effect, that there are above ten English warehousing vessels, which, first in the year 1821, entered the anchorage of Kaps'uy Moon, and thence, in 1833, removed their anchorage to Kumsing Moon; that the importation of opium, and the exportation of silver, depend wholly on these warehousing vessels, which form also a general refuge for absconders; that a set of worthless fellows, in boats called 'fast-crabs,' going and coming from morn to night, find means to make their way stealthily into every creek and inlet; that there are depraved dealers who prepare the drug for use, buying and selling by wholesale; and also that the native retail dealers in foreign commodities, under the open pretext of selling articles of commerce, make secret smuggling their business, and in no wise differ from the larger preparers of the drug.

'There surely must be a fixed place of anchorage for the vessels of the foreigners: how then is it, that, while, previous to the year 1821, the clandestine establishment of warehousing vessels was never heard of, these vessels have of late been suffered to remain for whole years at anchor on the high seas, thus leading to unlawful combination between them and natives, and to unrestrained smuggling? Let it be the responsible duty of the governor of Kwangtung and his colleagues, to give strict orders to the hong merchants, to be enjoined on the resident foreigners of the said nation, requiring them to compel the warehousing vessels now anchored there, one and all, to return home, and not to permit them under any pretext to linger about. Let them also ascertain where are the dens and hiding-places of the opium-dealers, and inflict punishment on each individual, without the slightest indulgence. Thus the sources of the evil may be closed up, and the spirit of contumacy be suppressed. Let a copy of the memorial, together with these commands, be transmitted to Täng and Ke, and by them let the commands be enjoined on Wän. Respect this.'

This having been, with respectful obedience, transmitted to us the governor and lieutenant-governor, and we having received the same, our commands were forthwith issued to the hong merchants, requiring them earnestly and zealously to enjoin the same on the said English superintendent, Elliot, and directing, that he should pay immediate obedience to the declared imperial pleasure, that he should send away home every one of the receiving vessels now anchored in the various offings, and that he should no longer suffer them to linger about as heretofore; also, that, hereafter, merchantmen should not be allowed to bring over the wide ocean any contraband goods, such as the filthy opium, but should be required to confine themselves to a lawful trade in dutyable commodities. Thus we hoped to be enabled to stop up the source of evil, and to hold up the laws to honor. This is on record.

After thus doing, we successively received reports from the military commander at Tapäng, from the sub-prefect at Macao, and from the civil and naval authorities of Heängshan, to the effect that there were twenty-five receiving vessels anchored off the Motaou

islands [in Kapshuy Moon], as also in the offing of the Nine Islands and Cabreta Point, and in the anchorage of the Typa; from which places they successively moved, on the 29th and 30th days of August, and on the 2d and 3d of September, nineteen of the said receiving ships proceeding from the Motaou islands to Tseênshatsuy offing [Hong-kong], and two from the Nine Islands, and one from off Cabreta Point, to the same place: further, that, on the 8th of September, two vessels moved from Tseênshatsuy to the Typa, and on the 9th, one from the same place to Cabreta Point; while only a Dutch ship, which had in the year 1834 anchored off the Nine Islands, and had at this time removed to Tseênshatsuy, weighed anchor, on the 7th, and proceeded to sea, beyond the Great Ladrone island. We also received a communication from the naval commander-in-chief to the same effect, adding that Tseênshatsuy is to the eastward of Motaou; and suggesting the great necessity for driving off the numerous vessels which have now taken up their anchorage there.

Now these receiving ships come from the southwestward, and must needs return in a southwest direction; how is it then that they have on the contrary removed eastward! And why do they not remain in one place! It is manifest herefrom, that they wish to cruise about unchecked, and to linger in the neighborhood, to watch the progress of circumstances.

The goodness of the celestial empire and its cherishing kindness are extreme. Since it first granted to all nations a general market, where the commodities of all might be bartered, a space of 200 years has elapsed, as though it had been but a single day. Such profound benevolence, favors so substantial, are well fitted to penetrate the entire body, even to the very marrow of the bones. Could it then be supposed, that depraved foreigners would twist awry the laws, and, to serve merely their private ends, would assume the pretence of traffic! Most lucid and clear are the sacred commands! Can any yet dare to be, as the habitual beholder, unobservant,—and still continue to linger about? And are the seas of the central flowery land to be made a common sewer for the reception of this filthy opium! Or shall we, entrusted with the defense and government of the frontier, be thought unable to follow such conduct with the rigor of the law? Consider, if, within the territory of any of these countries, the vessels of another country were contumaciously to infringe the prohibitions, and to remain there for a long period, refusing to leave, whether the king of that nation would not regard it necessary to punish such offenders with rigor, denying them the least indulgence? How much more then the celestial empire! How can it suffer barbarians to remain in its waters, disobeying the laws, and, without restraint, throwing contempt thereon!

The king of the said nation has been heretofore dutiful and respectful, and his prohibitions have been rigorous and clearly enacted. Also, being apprehensive lest merchants or seamen of vessels coming hither should infringe prohibitions, or transgress the laws, and so should bring shame upon their country, he specially deputed the

superintendent, Elliot, to keep them under control and restraint. But these receiving ships have now remained for a very long time at anchor; and though a month has elapsed since the said superintendent has received our commands, he has not yet sent the ships away to their country. We fear he is unequal to the duties of superintendent. If he can willingly subject himself to scandal on account of these receiving vessels, how will he answer it to his king? Or how to us the governor and lieutenant-governor? Let him in the stillness of night reflect hereon, and if he do so, we think that he will be unable to find rest upon his bed.

We proceed once more to issue our strict and plain commands. The senior hong merchants are, immediately on the receipt thereof, to enjoin them on the superintendent Elliot; and he is, in obedience thereto, immediately to make known to the receiving vessels the imperial goodness, and also the imperial terrors,—to set before them the choice of weal or woe,—and to urge their speedy and entire departure for their country. There must be no contumacious opposition. The said superintendent is also to convey it to his king, that henceforth such receiving vessels are to be prohibited ever again coming hither, that the precious gems and worthless pebbles may not be confounded. Thus from above will be realized the extensively advantageous and boundless favors of the great emperor, and thus also will be retained to all good foreigners an open path of commerce, for endless generations.

We, the governor and lieutenant-governor, hold a great power in our hands, and that which we determine to do, we do. What difficulty is it to us to drive these ships away with the utmost rigor? Yet we refuse not to repeat our admonitions again and again, fearing lest there should be any want of perfect faithfulness, and any consequent obstruction to the display of universally impartial benevolence. If, after this time of issuing our commands, the receiving vessels again collect, as though our words fell upon deaf ears, and continue still to remain looking around them, it will be plain that they are irrecoverably blind, stupid, and devoid of intelligence, and that further words will avail nothing.

Whether it be that the said superintendent, with folded arms, looks on, regardless,—or whether it be that those of the receiving ships have in their hearts no place for repentance, let the said senior merchants immediately and truly report to us, that we may act as the facts require. It is important that the said senior merchants should know, that on them, by the imperial pleasure, has devolved the duty of conducting out this affair. Their responsibility is incalculably weighty. Let them be careful then, not to forget their families, or their own lives; nor let them, by continuing this unconcerned and contemptuous line of conduct, draw down upon themselves disgrace and heavy criminality. Reflect on this; with trembling anxiety consider it! Oppose not. These are our special orders.

Note. The above is, in the main, a translation of an edict, dated 18th September: there are a few interpolations from similar edicts, of which that of 18th September was the third.

No. 5.

From the governor and lieutenant-governor, allowing a period of one month for the departure of the opium-receiving ships.

TANG, governor of Kwangtung and Kwangse, and Ke, lieutenant-governor of Kwangtung, issue their orders to the senior hong merchants, for their full information.

Having before received a dispatch from the council of state, communicating an imperial edict, which had been respectfully received, on the subject of driving away the opium-receiving ships,—we, the governor and lieutenant-governor, have already given particular orders on this subject. We prescribed a period, and commanded the said merchants to enjoin it earnestly and impressively on the superintendent Elliot, that he should require the receiving ships to take their departure. So long a time as two months have now elapsed, and those receiving ships remain still at anchor, as before. And, the said superintendent having plainly represented to us, that the commands so enjoined could not be brought by him to the knowledge of his king, we also directed the civil and military authorities of the department of Kwangchow to make a copy of our joint commands, and to enjoin the same on the said superintendent, that, in obedience thereto, he might with speed send away the receiving ships, and require every one of them to depart and return to their country; also, that he might make it known to his king, in order that their return may for the future be interdicted. This is on record.

Now, it appears, from the several successive reports and examinations of the commander of the Tapang squadron, the naval and civil authorities of the district of Heangshan, and the sub-prefect residing at Macao, that the various receiving ships have not yet taken their departure. This is a gross act of contumacy and contempt.

We have now again received the following imperial edict.

“Tang and his colleagues have presented a memorial, in reference to measures taken for driving away the receiving ships, and to regulations determined on for apprehending and punishing the brokers and smugglers of opium. It appears from this memorial, that the receiving ships and cargo-laden ships of the English and other nations have, of late years, under pretext of taking shelter from the weather, been in the practice of entering the inner seas. Commands have now been issued to the hong merchants, to be by them enjoined on the superintendent of affairs of the said nation, requiring that all the receiving ships, anchored off Lintin and other places, be sent away and ordered by him to return to their country; and that they be not allowed as before to remain lingering at anchor. The senior hong merchants have also been commanded, as soon as the receiving ships start to return to their country, immediately to report the circumstance, that it may be authentically ascertained by examination. The class of ‘fast-crab boats’ has been completely swept away; but there are yet many smuggling boats under various other designations. These, as well as the depraved gang of brokers, it is indeed impossible to suffer to continue their unrestrained courses. The military officers

of the circuits and departments, and all the vice-admirals and commanders of squadrons, have therefore been directed to set an example to all their subordinates, and to keep up a constant and unbroken guard, for the purpose of discovering and apprehending the guilty.

“The anchorage of foreign ships in the inner seas, and their combining with natives to introduce what is contraband, are the most aggravated evils now existing in the province of Kwangtung. The governor and his colleagues, aforesaid, must faithfully and strictly make examination, and clearly ascertain, whether, since they have issued these orders, the said foreign superintendent has or has not paid obedience to them, and whether the receiving ships have or have not taken their departure: they must require the ships one and all to return to their country, and must not suffer them to linger for a moment. If they dare to suffer gradual encroachment, and to let the matter rest, at a future day, when I the emperor on inquiry hear of it, or am by any one informed thereof, the said governor and his colleagues alone will I hold responsible. In regard to the various classes of smuggling vessels, it is still more important that measures should be adopted with strictness to make seizure of them, with the hope that they may be utterly destroyed and rooted up. Nor must they, when perchance they have made a few seizures, forthwith declare that they have entirely succeeded in removing them, and so still occasion a continuance of the evil. Respect this.”

It is our duty immediately to pay respectful obedience to this, and to issue orders commanding the obedience of others. We, therefore, forthwith issue these commands. When they reach the said hong merchants, let them immediately enjoin them upon the said superintendent, Elliot, that he likewise may obey the same. He must, within the space of one month, pay respectful obedience to the declared imperial pleasure, by sending off the various receiving ships anchored in the outer seas, requiring them one and all to return to their country; and he must report their departure for our official investigation, that we may report the same to the throne. If they dare again, in any measure, to linger, then, the kindness and tenderness of the celestial empire having been carried to the utmost, and there being no room left for additional favor, it will remain only to display the celestial terrors, and to make apparent the glory of the established laws. We shall have to report plainly to the great emperor, that the merchant ships may be denied permission to open their holds, and that, grasping the laws, we may pursue with them the receiving ships. And further, seeing that the said superintendent, in the discharge of his official duties, sits hand-bound, idly looking on at the unrestrained and illegal practices of depraved foreigners, even kicking against our commands, and resisting the imperial pleasure, we shall find it difficult to believe that he is not guilty of the offense of sheltering and giving license to these illegalities. We will assuredly proceed to expel him, and drive him back to his country.

We, the governor and lieutenant-governor, will, in the maintenance of the laws, stand firm as the hills, and of a surety will show no indul-

gence. The said senior merchants are men to whom the imperial pleasure has allotted the duty of conducting forth this matter. If then, they cannot, within the stated period, guide and instruct these foreigners in the path of duty, and if the various receiving ships continue to look around them to view the course of events, and still remove far off the day of their departure, in that case they shall also be degraded, and their offenses shall be visited with severity. Tremble at this—intensely—intensely. A special order.

Taoukwang, 17th year, 10th month, 22d day. (20th Nov., 1837.)

ART. VII. *Statement of imports and exports to and from China under the Dutch colors, from 1st of January to 31st of December, 1836.*

IMPORTS.

Rice - - - Peculs	102,392	Pepper - - - Peculs	2,100
Rattans - - - - -	7,481	Skins - - - Pieces	3,400
Tin - - - - -	1,322	Gin - - - Cases	130
Sandalwood - - - -	2,736	Cotton - - - Bales	699
Iron - - - - -	1,500	Opium - - - Chests	10
Birds' Nests - - - -	26½	Camlets - - - Pieces	3,000
Gold and Silver Thread	4	Sundries, valued at	\$50,000

EXPORTS TO HOLLAND AND JAVA.

Bohea & Congo - - -	Chests	2,200	Nankeens - - -	Pieces	12,584
Campoy - - - - -	- - -	1,454	Empty Bags - - -	- - -	180,000
Souchong - - - - -	- - -	3,012	China Umbrellas - - -	- - -	28,050
Pekoe - - - - -	- - -	203	Silk Piece Goods - - -	- - -	815
Hyson - - - - -	- - -	705	Tiles (for floors) - - -	- - -	14,000
Hungmuey - - - ¼ Chests	1,188	Tea for Java - - -	Chests	4,350	
Twankay - - - - -	- - -	884	Lackered Ware - - -	Boxes	1,000
Hyson Skin - - - - -	- - -	90	Sweetmeats - - - - -	- - -	2,651
Imperial & Gunpowder -	- - -	300	Crackers - - - - -	- - -	270
Raw Silk - - - - -	Peculs	54	Joss sticks - - - - -	- - -	36
Cassia - - - - -	- - -	1,552	Opium - - - - -	Chests	72
Joss Paper - - - - -	- - -	110	Paint - - - - -	Tubs	440
Hartall - - - - -	- - -	250	China Ware - - -	Bundles	4,000
China Root & Galangal	- - -	3,607	Trunks - - - - -	Sets	300
Anniseed - - - - -	- - -	530	Chinese Medicines and	- - -	
Writing Paper - - - -	- - -	711	Sundries, valued at	\$75,000	
Cassia Oil - - - - -	- - -	12			

This statement of the imports and exports has been kindly sent to us by the Dutch consul; it came to hand too late to find a place in our last number.

ART. VIII. *Journal of Occurrences. Stoppage of foreign commerce threatened; fires in Canton; return of the governor; literary examinations; communications between the local government and the superintendent of British trade suspended.*

THE STOPPAGE of the foreign trade, our readers will perceive by a perusal of a preceding article, is at length, threatened, as a dernier resort for arresting the traffic in opium. Thus, the *ne plus ultra* of paper-warfare—mere words—large, has come. What will be the actual results, it remains to be seen. But, since the local authorities have failed to dislodge individuals from the provincial city, it is not very probable they will succeed in driving fifteen or twenty ships from the high seas. By recent arrivals from Calcutta and Bombay, it appears, that there has been no decrease in the produce of the Indian drug during the current year—it being estimated, that 19,000 chests will come into the market at Calcutta; and that 25,000 chests of Malwa will be furnished at Bombay and Damann; this will give 9,000 above the produce of last year, which was 35,000 chests. Nor does there seem to be any very permanent check in the rate of deliveries, or of the consumption of the drug. Hundreds of chests, it is said, have been brought within the Bogue, and even to Whampoa, during the month. It is *possible* the regular legal trade of the port may be suspended; though there is, we apprehend, little probability of such a measure being adopted, as things now are.

A fire broke out about a hundred rods north of the foreign factories, at 10 P. M., on the 2d instant. The fire originated, according to the report given us at the time, with smoking opium. A lady, having taken her usual number of pipes, fell asleep, and her servant girl retired to rest. Shortly after, by some accident, the fire from the lamp was communicated to the curtains of the lady's bed. Fortunately she escaped, and the flames were extinguished—not, however, before the house was reduced to ashes. The poor servant girl perished in the ruins.

The governor returned, on the 15th, from reviewing military defenses eastward. A nephew of the emperor arrived here on the 6th, as one of the lieut.-generals of the Tartar garrison.

The literary examiners in Keängse having, during the recent examinations, disposed of some of the degrees for money, instead of according to the merit of the essays written, and the circumstance having become public, one of them has, in consequence, destroyed himself, and the other is under close custody, waiting intelligence of the imperial pleasure respecting him.

An interruption of communications between the governor of Canton and captain Elliot, chief superintendent of British trade in China, has been announced in the following letter, addressed "to the British subjects resident in Canton."

Gentlemen,—I have recently had the honor to receive instructions from her majesty's government, directing me to make a communication to the governor of these provinces, concerning the manner of my intercourse with his excellency.

The governor has declined to accede to the conditions involved in these instructions; and, whilst these difficulties subsist, all communication between us has necessarily ceased. In this posture of circumstances, I can only assure you, gentlemen, of my sincere disposition to afford you any public assistance in my power, either in the form of counsel, or in any other way which may be consistent with my situation.

Neither can I conclude this letter, without respectfully and earnestly suggesting to you, the expediency of taking this occasion to draw from the provincial government a definite explanation of its intentions with relation to your claims against the Hingtae hong: claims, it will be remembered, which have been examined and certified, in strict conformity with arrangements, required and sanctioned by this government.

It seems to me to be an object of considerable importance to the general interests of the trade, that my report to her majesty's government, detailing the interruption of the public communications, should be accompanied by a statement of your own position in respect to these particular claims.

I will only detain you, gentlemen, to offer you the expression of my best thanks for the courtesy and consideration which I have always received at your hands.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Canton November 29th, 1837.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.



